

Belfast judge's daughter shot dead

BELFAST (R) — Gunmen ambushed a Belfast magistrate and his family on their way home from church Sunday seriously wounding the magistrate and killing his daughter. Police said two men ran up and opened fire with hand guns as the family walked home from Saint Brigid's Catholic Church, in south Belfast. The magistrate's wife escaped unhurt. Police said the attackers, who fled by car, were probably Irish Republican guerrillas fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland. The father and daughter were both hit several times. The father later underwent emergency surgery but the daughter was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital. In January, Irish Republican guerrillas shot dead a Catholic judge as he was leaving Saint Brigid's after mass. Protestant extremists shot dead two Catholic youths on the steps of the same church in the early 1970s.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
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'Sabotage killed Libyan soldiers'

LONDON (R) — Saboteurs opposed to Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi have killed or wounded hundreds of soldiers by blowing up a big ammunition dump, a British newspaper said Sunday. The newspaper, the Sunday Express, said the blast ripped through the dump at Al Aghar on March 25, destroyed the barracks of Libya's Seventh Division, and rattled windows in Benghazi, 60 kilometres away. Lorryloads of wounded and dying soldiers were taken to hospitals in Benghazi, the newspaper said. Libya's government suppressed news of the explosion, it added. Western intelligence sources reported the explosion but Libyan sources said Colonel Qadhafi's opponents caused it, the Sunday Express said.

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King sends message to Sanaa

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a message to President Ali Abdullah Saleh of North Yemen dealing with the current situation on the Arab and international arenas as well as the importance of crystallising a unified Arab stand towards all events and dangers facing the Arab Nation, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. The message, delivered on Sunday by the Jordanian ambassador in Sanaa and received by North Yemeni Vice-President Abdul Karim Al Arshi on behalf of President Saleh, comes in a series of messages recently sent by the King to a number of Arab leaders.

S. Arabia complains against Israeli plan

JEDDAH (R) — Saudi Arabia has complained to the International Telecommunications Union about reported Israeli plans to launch a satellite in the same orbit as that of an Arab World satellite due to be launched in October, officials said Sunday. They said Israel had chosen for its satellite the same orbit and frequency as those planned for the \$200 million Arab satellite, ArabSat. The Israeli plan would negatively affect ArabSat and was against international laws, the officials said.

Israel refuses Sharon request

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli cabinet Sunday refused to let Defence Minister Ariel Sharon use secret documents as evidence in a libel suit against a U.S. magazine, an official spokesman said. Mr. Sharon, now minister without portfolio, is suing Time magazine in the United States over allegations concerning massacres of Palestinians in Beirut in September, 1982.

Cairo court rejects case against 'leftists'

CAIRO (R) — A state security court Sunday dismissed a case beyond jurisdiction a case against 13 Egyptians charged with membership of a clandestine left-wing group. The three-man bench ruled that the case should be put back to reference to a court with specialised powers. The ruling protected the defendants, accused of plotting to overthrow the government of President Hosni Mubarak, to chant slogans in favour of Egypt's judiciary system.

Syria protests Turkish project

JWAIT (AP) — Syria has asked oil-producing Arab countries not to loan Turkey any money for the projected on the Euphrates, the newspaper Anbaa reported Sunday. Citing unidentified "well informed" Arab sources, the paper said the projected dam would adversely affect Syria and Iraq and strain Turkish-Arab relations. It said that Turkey was to build the dam without recourse to Syria and through which the Euphrates

Beirut skirmishes continue despite all-party truce plan

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Lebanese army fought sporadically with opposition militiamen in and around Beirut Sunday despite an all-party agreement on a plan to disengage the rival forces along the 15-kilometre front line.

The fighting was concentrated in the old commercial centre, now a deserted no-man's-land between the predominantly Christian east and the mainly Muslim west, and on the mountain front between the army and the mostly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP). The army said a sniper firing from positions held by the Shi'ite group "Amal" killed a soldier in the old markets. Bursts of machine-gun fire and the explosion of grenades could be heard from the area shortly afterwards. Clashes erupted around the army-held town of Souq Al Gharb, 15 kilometres south of Beirut, soon after midday but later only snipers were active, the PSP radio said. The disengagement plan, approved Saturday night at a seven-hour meeting of an all-party military committee, provides for a buffer force of Lebanese gendarmes to separate the main combatants — the army and mainly Christian rightist militias in east Beirut, Amal and the PSP in the west. The security committee is made up of the military representatives on the "higher security-political committee," which is chaired by President Amin Gemayel. The final text of the agreement was being drafted by the four-party security committee and was expected to be signed at a meeting of the "higher" committee, but no date for this meeting has been set. The plan had been on the drawing-board since a reconciliation conference last month in the Swiss city of Lausanne but the version approved falls short of the one originally envisaged. On some sectors of the front the

rival forces will pull back only 10 to 15 metres, just out of sight of each other, rather than the 700 metres mentioned in earlier rounds of the disengagement talks.

Sources in the military committee did not indicate when the fighters would start to withdraw, saying only that the government would first have to mobilise a force of 3,000 gendarmes and army conscripts to fill the buffer zone, according to Reuters.

The plan raised no great hopes among the Lebanese, who since the end of the inconclusive reconciliation talks have seen daily ceasefires violated by bouts of random shelling.

At least four people were killed and about 30 wounded Saturday when militias bombed areas held by their rivals. The radio station of the right-wing "Lebanese Forces" militia ignored the disengagement plan, while the PSP radio described it as a feeble attempt by President Gemayel to avoid committing himself to anything specific before he meets Syrian President Hafez Al Assad later this week. The two leaders are expected to meet in Damascus on Wednesday

in an attempt to break the virtual deadlock in attempts to find a political solution to the Lebanese conflict and end nine years of intermittent civil war.

Syria emerged as the main arbiter in disputes between the Lebanese factions after Washington withdrew its Marine force in February and abandoned its mediation efforts.

But at the conference in Lausanne, Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam failed to find a compromise formula acceptable to all the parties.

Troops of the Lebanese army's sixth Brigade, which refused to fight against opposition militiamen in February battles, redeployed in west Beirut Sunday as PSP and Amal militias were ordered off the streets.

The security change had been announced Saturday by Amal leader Nabih Berri. He told a news conference that the army had been given instructions to arrest or even shoot offenders. The troops set up checkpoints on main streets of the western half of the capital and rounded up a number of people carrying unlicensed weapons.



Soldiers of the Lebanese army's Sixth Brigade, which took over west Beirut streets Sunday following an order to militiamen Saturday by Amal militia leader Nabih Berri to stay off the streets, drive through a West Beirut road (AP wirephoto)

Masri: Foreign aid encourages Israel to continue aggression

AMMAN (J.T.) — The continued financial and military assistance Israel receives from a number of foreign countries is encouraging and helping the Jewish state to press on with its aggression against Arab countries and its drive to build settlements in the occupied Arab territories, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said Sunday. Mr. Masri, who was speaking to a delegation representing the Council of U.S.-Arab Relations which arrived here Saturday, said the occupied territories are constantly being subjected to Israel's attempts to change their geographic and demographic character; and the Palestinians living under the Israeli occupation are facing continued repressive measures at the hands of the Israelis. He briefed the delegation members on the situation in the occupied territories and emphasised the urgent need for an international effort to save the people under occupation. The foreign minister explained the Jordanian and Arab stand towards a just and durable peace settlement in the Middle East and pointed out that the Arab Nation has already voiced its readiness to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions which emphasise the inadmissibility of the occupation of other people's land by force and call for the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland. On Sunday, the delegation met also with Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani. Dr. Anani briefed the del-

Spanish ambassadors 'evaluate' Madrid's role in Middle East

By Salamah B. Ne'man, Jordan Times Staff Reporter
Spanish ambassadors to Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and the Spanish consul in occupied Jerusalem, all agreed that there will be no solution to the Middle East problem until probably after the U.S. presidential elections in November and that "all eyes are currently focused on 1985 as the decisive year," according to Mr. Del Valle. "What we can do now is to pave the way and prepare for an initiative to be launched next year," Mr. Del Valle said. "When 1985 arrives, we have to be ready with a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the whole situation in the area." In reply to a question, Mr. Del Valle said Spain "might consider launching an initiative" to solve the Middle East conflict which would have to be "co-sponsored by other European nations" because of Spain's "special relations" with the Arab World. However, "no initiative can be successful without the endorsement of the two superpowers" who are the only parties able to exercise any pressure on the countries involved in the conflict to accept peace initiatives, the ambassador said. "It is either a solution with the support of the two superpowers, or no solution at all," Mr. Del Valle asserted. He added that Europe is not able to launch any initiative without the approval of the U.S., hence it cannot effectively play any "independent role" in the region "for the time being." During his meeting with Mr. Moran Wednesday, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said that there is "a state of moderation in the area for a solution which should not be missed," and urged Europe to speed up efforts for peace in the Middle East. Spain has repeatedly called for Israeli withdrawal from all Arab lands occupied since 1967, and for the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination on their homeland. Mr. Del Valle said that another important subject discussed during the two-day meeting of the 10 Spanish ambassadors here was the Iran-Iraq war, and all agreed that it should be "stopped immediately by all means before it is too late." Mr. Del Valle quoted the Spanish ambassador to Iran as saying "Iran does not intend to stop the war" and that in the long run "Iran thinks is not going to lose the war of attrition" because of Tehran's massive human reserve to keep blowing "the winds of war" into the 43-month-old conflict.

Punjab extremist attacks injure 8

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Grenade and gun attacks have wounded eight people at religious meetings in the north Indian state of Punjab, keeping communal tension high Sunday during Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's absence abroad. Late Saturday night five people were wounded when gunmen opened fire on a religious gathering near the Punjab town of Bhatinda, about 200 kilometres southwest of the Sikh holy city of Amritsar. Early Sunday three others, one of them a woman, were injured when a grenade was thrown at a Hindu religious meeting near Bhatinda. The attacks were carried out as Hindus gathered to prepare for Tuesday's major religious festival, Ram Navami, which celebrates the birthday of Ram, a Hindu god. Mrs. Gandhi left for Libya on Sunday after a day of appeals to the nation for communal peace. She postponed visits to Egypt and Algeria because of the Punjab crisis, and is due to return on Tuesday. Four people were killed and 31 wounded a week ago when Sikh extremists tossed two grenades into a Sikh dissident sect's shrine near Amritsar and then fled on bicycles. The Sikh-dominated state has been shaken by terrorist violence for the past three years. According to authorities, more than 375 people have been assassinated so far. The attacks were carried out as Hindus gathered to prepare for

Churches join call against U.S. move

JEDDAH (Agencies) — The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Churches of North America have joined the Jeddah-based Muslim World League in urging President Reagan not to move the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, league officials said Sunday. They said the move was made in a cable, jointly signed by Muslim World League Secretary-General Abdullah Omar Nasseeif and the primate of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Churches of North America, Metropolitan Philip Saliba, sent to Mr. Reagan Saturday at the end of Metropolitan Saliba's four-day visit to Saudi Arabia.

U.S. congressional moves towards transferring the embassy to Jerusalem have sparked a wave of protests from Arab nations. The U.S. church leader told reporters before leaving Saudi Arabia he had invited Mr. Nasseeif to address the 45,000 delegates to next year's Orthodox Churches Conference in Boston, Massachusetts.

Meanwhile the semi-official Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram expressed scepticism Sunday over President Reagan's ability to block the moves in Congress to transfer the embassy.

It said in an editorial that despite Mr. Reagan's pledge to veto the move by pro-Israel congressmen, U.S. officials continued to talk about the transfer as if it was "expected." President Hosni Mubarak last month described the move as "reckless attempts by some irresponsible groups" and said it would endanger American interests in the Middle East.

Egypt has 'new plan' to end Gulf war

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak said Sunday Egypt has a new plan for a peaceful end to the Iran-Iraq war. He said at a luncheon party in honour of visiting Central African Republic President Andre Kolingba that the new peace proposals would first be submitted to the non-aligned countries and later to the United Nations Security Council. He said the Security Council would be asked to play an important role, including monitoring a ceasefire, but gave no further details. "We are witnessing a serious escalation of the war which will eventually have its impact on all other countries in the region... although all previous attempts have met a dead end, we cannot remain indifferent any longer," Mr. Mubarak said. Egypt is a firm supporter of Iraq in the war and supplies it with military hardware and ammunition. Egypt has been co-ordinating efforts within the Non-Aligned Movement for a peaceful end to the 43-month-old Iran-Iraq war. Last week Mr. Mubarak's special adviser, Dr. Osama Al Baz, visited New Delhi and delivered a message to Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi from the Egyptian president. Mrs. Gandhi is the current chairperson of the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement.

General Kolingba, in reply, criticised the arms race among developing countries in Africa and elsewhere and said positive neutrality was the best way to serve

Gandhi off to Tunis after talks in Tripoli

BEIRUT (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi left Libya Sunday after a two-day visit during which she held talks with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, the official Libyan news agency JANA said. Mrs. Gandhi, current chairman of the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement, was travelling to Tunis and plans to return home on Tuesday. Mr. Qadhafi and senior Libyan officials saw her off at the airport. JANA said. The agency did not reveal the content of her talks in Libya though at a banquet Saturday night Colonel Qadhafi said relations between the two countries would suffer if political co-ordination continued to lag behind economic co-operation. On Sunday, Mrs. Gandhi visited a girls' military college and an industrial-agricultural fair in Tripoli, JANA said. She cut short her Arab tour, postponing visits to Algeria and Egypt, because of tension in India's Punjab state. While in Tunis, Mrs. Gandhi is due to meet President Habib Bourguiba and Chadli Klibi, secretary-general of the 22-member Arab League. She is also expected to confer with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who returned to his Tunis headquarters Saturday night from North Yemen. Tunisian Foreign Ministry sources said Mrs. Gandhi's talks on the Iran-Iraq conflict would concentrate on reactivating an effort to raise money for reconstruction of war damage. Iran is demanding massive reparations from Iraq as a condition for ending the war, as well as recognition that Baghdad was the "aggressor".

Solar Max escapes 1st Challenger 'catch'

CAPE CANAVERAL (R) — American astronauts from the space shuttle Challenger Sunday postponed a space repair operation until Monday after failing to secure a crippled satellite. Astronaut George Nelson was unable to lock on to the disabled solar observation platform Solar Max after leaving the shuttle with a rocket backpack. Two attempts to catch the satellite with the space shuttle's remote-controlled mechanical arm also failed. Mr. Nelson floated slowly across 65 metres of space from the shuttle to the satellite but was unable to latch himself to it using a special docking mechanism. When the mechanism did not work properly, the astronaut tried to grab hold of one of the satellite's solar panels, but failed. Mission control at first ordered him to try the docking mechanism again but then decided to try to "catch" the satellite with the mechanical arm. Two such attempts failed. Mr. Nelson's task had been to stop the slow spin of the satellite, so it could be hoisted aboard the shuttle by the robot arm for repairs.

Challenger caught up with Solar Max early Sunday after a 1,332,500 kilometre chase that began when the five astronauts were launched from Cape Canaveral on Friday. The astronauts had first sighted the satellite at 4:45 a.m. EST Sunday, (0945 GMT), about 600 kilometres ahead of them, four hours before the final rendezvous. Radar contact had been made 15 minutes earlier.

Mondale beats Hart in Wisconsin

MADISON, Wisconsin (Agencies) — Walter Mondale trounced Gary Hart by a margin of almost 2-1 as Wisconsin Democrats met in caucuses to choose their delegates to the party's presidential nominating convention in July.

With 91 per cent of votes counted from 126 caucuses around the state Saturday, former Vice President Mondale had 16,499 votes to 8,563 for Colorado Senator Hart and 2,293 for black rights leader Jesse Jackson. While a breakdown of the 78 delegates at stake in the contest awaited a more complete count, it appeared that Mr. Mondale could take as many as two thirds of the total. Mr. Mondale, who trounced Mr. Hart in the New York primary election last Tuesday and is expected to do well in Pennsylvania next Tuesday, showed strength across the entire state, in industrial and rural areas and in university towns.

The vote was a reversal of last Tuesday's non-binding "beauty contest" poll in Wisconsin in which Mr. Hart edged Mr. Mondale by 46 per cent to 42 per cent. With nearly half the committed delegates to the July Democratic nominating convention now chosen, Mr. Mondale has 861.25, Mr. Hart 512 and Mr. Jackson 140.5. It takes 1,967 to win the nomination. During a brief campaign visit to Wisconsin on Friday, Mr. Mondale said Republicans provided Mr. Hart's primary victory margin. "I probably won the primary insofar as Democrats are concerned," he said. "Republicans who voted in the primary overwhelmingly voted for Gary Hart."

In Pennsylvania, where 172 delegates are at stake in next Tuesday's primary, Mr. Hart told a rally at a Scranton train station that Mr. Mondale and President Reagan both "are deaf to the lessons of the past and blind to the possibilities of the future."

The entourages of Mr. Hart and Mr. Mondale actually crossed paths at a Philadelphia outdoor market as the two leading candidates mingled among shoppers in a made-for-television early morning appearance Saturday.

Mr. Jackson arrived at midday from New Orleans and launched a barnstorming tour of the western part of the state.

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Bahrain emir hopes London talks will help end Gulf war

BAHRAIN (R) — The Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa, who begins a four-day state visit to Britain on Tuesday, hopes that his talks with British leaders will contribute to a settlement of the Iran-Iraq war.

"In our discussions, we hope that we shall be able to formulate new ideas which will contribute to the settlement of the dispute between Iran and Iraq," he said in written answers to questions submitted by Reuters.

He said Bahrain had been affected as much as any other Gulf state by the three and a half years war, which "threatens peace and security in the whole region... retards economic development in the area and invites foreign power rivalry."

The emir, who will have talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, also said: "We expect Britain and other West European countries to play a greater role in trying to solve the Middle East problem."

He added: "We call upon EEC

(European Economic Community) countries to exert pressure on Israel in order to comply with relevant U.N. resolutions, aiming at reaching a just and lasting solution of the problem."

The emir said the Gulf war was "a source of instability for trade and economic confidence" and that Bahrain, a country of 350,000 people and a major financial centre, had been affected "as much as any nearby state in the region."

Bahrain and Britain could both "contribute in different ways in the creation of a suitable atmosphere for a peaceful resolution of the conflict, acceptable to both parties through negotiations," he said.

The emir commended "Iraq's willingness to end the war and start negotiations."

Asked how he viewed the Islamic revolution in Iran, he said: "Bahrain respects the wishes of any nation in choosing its form of government. It abides by the provisions of the United Nations charter and does not intervene in the internal affairs of other nations."

"Bahrain expects that other nations respect its national integrity and sovereignty," added the emir, whose government foiled in December 1981 what was officially described as an Iranian-backed anti-government plot. Iran denied any involvement.

The emir said world economic recession and inflation, along with the Gulf war, had had a detrimental effect on Bahrain's economy.

He said the aim of Bahrain and its Gulf Co-operation Council partners — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — was "to promote the closest possible ties among member states, particularly in the political and economic fields."

The six Gulf states, which set up

the council in 1981 after the Islamic revolution swept through Iran and the Gulf war erupted, had learned from the experience of the European Community that economic co-operation can be used to further co-operation in other fields, he said.

They had recently approved a unified economic agreement and further steps would be taken to promote co-operation in various fields, including defence, industrialisation, planning, agriculture and education.

The emir said his visit to Britain, in return for a visit to Bahrain by Queen Elizabeth II in 1979, was to further promote the strong and friendly relations existing between the two countries and expand co-operation, particularly in the economic and development fields and in the use of British expertise.

There are an estimated 8,000 Britons in Bahrain, which achieved full independence from Britain in 1971, and bilateral trade exchanges total about £180 million (\$260 million) annually, according to British sources.



CASUALTY ON GREEN LINE: A Lebanese Army soldier is carried to hospital on a stretcher after being wounded by shellfire near Beirut's Green Line Saturday. Overnight artillery duels between east and west Beirut killed seven people and wounded 53 others (AP wirephoto)

Spark in Bekaa Valley could set off new Middle East war

By Jonathan Wright

SULTAN YAAQUB, Lebanon's ruler, said the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon might see an unlikely setting for a new Middle East war between Syria and Israel.

Earlier this week the scene from the hillside village of Sultan Yaaqoub, about 1,500 metres behind the Syrian front line, was one of rustic tranquillity undisturbed by the noises of war.

But this is undoubtedly the most militarised part of Lebanon and the only point of direct contact between the Middle East's two most powerful armies. A spark here could set off a chain reaction of unpredictable consequences.

Reports in Beirut on Friday said Israeli and its South Lebanese militia allies were massing armour and artillery opposite Syrian lines and both sides were on maximum alert.

A Lebanese Army source in Beirut, who confirmed the report, declined to speculate on the significance of the moves.

Last Monday, before the military build-up, not a tank and barely a gun were seen by reporters who toured parts of the valley floor and the surrounding mountains.

Farmers in the valley tilled their fields and grazed their sheep right up to the last Syrian positions behind an earth barricade that runs across the Bekaa towards the snow-capped ridge of Mount Barouk to the west.

Irrigation channels, lined with cypress and willow trees, divide the farmland into a patchwork of brown and green before draining into the upper reaches of the Litani River.

For three days a week for several months, Syrian and Israeli soldiers have opened the front to let through a trickle of vehicles carrying fruit and vegetables to market.

Between here and the main

Beirut-Damascus Highway, 12 kilometres to the north, only the checkpoints, a few Syrian army trucks delivering supplies and the odd anti-aircraft gun deployed by the roadside suggested a military presence.

Syrian armoured vehicles and sophisticated missiles have been carefully concealed in bunkers and in the hillsides in the 22 months since a ceasefire came into effect.

But Western military sources say Syria has over 25,000 troops in the Bekaa, facing between 5,000 and 7,000 Israelis.

A third element in the equation is the Palestinian commandos stationed behind Syrian lines. Israel says Syria is responsible for their actions, although the commandos themselves claim to enjoy a degree of operational independence.

In the last month, the commandos have resumed frequent infiltrations into the Israeli-held zone, wounding eight Israeli soldiers by mining roads and firing grenades at their positions and patrols.

Last Sunday, Israeli long-range artillery retaliated by shelling Palestinian bases just south of the Beirut-Damascus Highway for the first time in about a year.

Like this week's commando operation in occupied Jerusalem, the Palestinian activity in the Bekaa appears to be at least in part an attempt to discredit the leadership of the PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

A Syrian press commentary on the Jerusalem incident, in which men of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine wounded about 50 Israelis, said: "It is this daring and heroism which reflect the real Palestinian decision."

Mr. Arafat, whose forces were driven out of Lebanon by Syrian-backed rebels last December, has tried to win support for his cause by portraying himself as able to

take Palestinian decisions independently of all Arab states.

The rebels have failed to muster enough votes to overthrow the chairman of PLO institutions. Proving that they monopolise military activity against Israel would strengthen their case for his dismissal.

Israeli officials and Lebanese civilians in the Bekaa say the recent escalation in Palestinian activity there means the Syrians must have loosened the tight controls they imposed after the Israeli invasion of 1982.

But at a rebel office near the Bekaa town of Barr Elias, close to the bases shelled by Israel last Sunday, a Palestinian officer said there had been no change in the Syrian position.

Abu Jawad, an operations officer in the anti-Arafat wing of the mainstream group Fateh, told Reuters the internal squabble which broke out in the Bekaa last summer distracted the Palestinian movement from anti-Israeli operations.

"It has taken us time to reorganise our forces and this is just beginning to show on the ground," he said.

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens, on a visit to the Bekaa front this week, was quoted as saying that Israel would never allow Syria to drag it into a war of attrition here.

Israel has even proposed moving north the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, stationed in the South since 1978, to act as a buffer force in the Bekaa and the Shouf Mountains to the west.

Diplomatic sources said the Lebanese and Syrian governments rejected the proposal on the grounds that it would help to legitimise Israel's occupation of the South.

A U.N. force would also hamper any Syrian plans to harass the Israelis through Syria's Palestinian allies.

'Palestine refugees still need protection'

VIENNA — There is a continuing need to provide for the physical protection of Palestine refugees in Lebanon, as tensions in that country seem to rise "from very bad to an even more risky situation," according to UNRWA Commissioner-General Olof Rydbeck.

Speaking to a press conference in Vienna on March 29, Mr. Rydbeck said that UNRWA, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, is prepared for renewed needs for assistance to refugees in Lebanon if necessary.

"There may be new migrations of refugees and a need for relief supplies," he said. UNRWA had stocks on hand in its warehouse but also expected to rely on the co-operation of non-governmental organisations for possibly future relief needs.

"We are waiting with anxiety to see how the situation will develop," Mr. Rydbeck said. Palestine refugees in Lebanon have faced periods of "acute persecution" from certain factions, he said. "There is now a murder, or so a day and shelters are still being blown up" in the refugee camps to which UNRWA provides education, health and relief services.

UNRWA itself cannot provide security guarantees for the Palestine refugees in Lebanon, but the commissioner-general said he had discussed the issue with the relevant governments and with senior United Nations officials.

Mr. Rydbeck said it was notable that UNRWA had been able to maintain services to refugees in Lebanon despite nearly two years of constant violence and upheaval. Since July 1982, he said, UNRWA had provided emergency relief, including food rations, to 190,000 people in Lebanon. This programme has been funded only through the end of March 1984.

Fund-raising

Mr. Rydbeck said UNRWA once again faced a "very critical" financial situation, with a projected cash deficit of \$61 million against budgeted requirements for the year 1984. As a precaution, he said, funds are to be withheld from school construction and maintenance programmes which would have cost \$17 million. "But this will not raise the question of the food-raising path again," he added.

The commissioner-general said he had recently been in contact with a number of European and Arab governments to ask them to increase their contributions to UNRWA. The agency depends on voluntary contributions from governments and international organisations, public and private, to finance its regular education, health and relief services to those displaced among nearly 2 million registered Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syria and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Italian says rebels killed 1,500 Sudanese

ROME (AP) — As many as 1,500 people, including hundreds of women and children, were massacred by Sudanese rebels in an attack on river barges near Tonga on Feb. 14, an Italian survivor, retired actor Aldo Berti, said Saturday.

A high-ranking Sudanese official, who asked not to be identified, recently told the Associated Press in Sudan that 150 people were confirmed dead in the attack and about 400 were missing.

In a telephone interview with AP, Mr. Berti, 48, said he was aboard one of six huge barges on the Nile River that came under attack.

He said the double-decker barges, each carrying some 300 passengers and 12 government soldiers, left the central Sudanese town of Malakal and were sailing south to Giuba, near the border

with Zaire. Also aboard were six foreigners — himself, a Frenchman, a Canadian woman, a Dutchman and two West Germans, he said.

Mr. Berti gave this account: at 1 a.m., when the barges were about 39 kilometres west of Tonga, guerrillas on the bank opened fire.

"There were hurling firebombs about the barges and shooting. Within minutes the barges were in flames."

"There may have been some survivors, but the majority of people aboard were women and children who were trapped. I heard them screaming and saw them vanish into the flames."

The barge he was on was able to escape by breaking free of the chain linking it to the other vessels. It proceeded to Tonga, where he and the other foreigners were held by authorities for eight days

for questioning. He did not name the other foreigners.

Il Messaggero, Italy's largest daily, published Mr. Berti's account Saturday along with a story quoting members of the Sudan People's Liberation Army as claiming responsibility for the attack but saying government soldiers aboard the barges fired first. They said the guerrillas were forced to counter-attack in self-defence.

Mr. Berti disputed that version. "I could see all the barges clearly," he told AP. "None of the soldiers aboard fired a single shot before the attack began."

The People's Liberation Army is led by former army Col. John Garang, who turned against the government last June. The Sudanese government claims that its activities are subsidised by Ethiopia and Libya.

'Israel manipulating U.S. aid to Palestinians'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Over the past seven years, Israel has manipulated United States aid to Palestinians in the occupied West Bank to further Israeli policy goals, an Israeli researcher says. He blames the American government for taking a low profile in deciding how the money is used, for fear of offending Israel.

The report by Merton Benvenisti, published on Friday, recommends tighter control by U.S. officials over the U.S.-donated funds.

Mr. Benvenisti said that in the period studied, the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) sent about \$16 million for projects by six voluntary agencies — a figure that represents less than half the total original allocations.

The study analysed 358 projects proposed by the agencies between 1977 and 1983.

It found that up to 66 per cent of programmes for industrial and agricultural development were rejected by Israel's military authority for the West Bank, which has a final say in approving such plans.

The report said that the effect was that Israel had reversed the priorities of American money spent on 800,000 Palestinians living in the area by approving more projects related to water, sewage, roads and electricity than programmes to boost education, agriculture and industry.

"Israeli intervention, through its approval and disapproval policy, alters the emphasis and use of U.S. economic aid in the territories," the 15-page report con-

cluded.

This, it said, enables Israel to follow a policy "allowing only individual prosperity" of West Bank Palestinians while "curbing communal economic development."

"This forces the Palestinians into dependence on Israel," said the document, which was widely published in the Israeli media.

The aid grants go to these voluntary agencies operating in the West Bank: American Midwest Education and Training Service, Community Development Foundation, American Near East Refugee Aid, Catholic Relief Services, Holy Land Christian Mission and Save the Children Fund. The Jordanian government provides up to 50 per cent in matching funds for the budget proposals submitted to the Israelis for approval, the report says.

Palestinian writers end conference

SANAA (R) — Palestinian writers and journalists have ended a four-day conference in the North Yemeni capital with a call for an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

Palestinian officials said a statement issued after the conference urged Iran to respond to "repeated peace initiatives already accepted by Iraq."

The conference, attended by 76 delegates but boycotted by many who oppose the moderate policies of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat, also urged Egypt to renounce the American-sponsored Camp David accords with Israel and return to the Arab fold.

The writers and journalists denounced the U.S. stand on Palestinian Arab issues and especially "its failure to recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including that of having their own state on Palestinian soil."

Egypt to hold parliamentary elections on May 27

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak has set a date of May 27 for the first parliamentary elections since he assumed power in 1981.

The elections, announced in a decree issued Saturday, will be for a new 490-member parliament. The ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) commands more than 90 per cent of the 592 seats in the present parliament.

| JORDAN TELEVISION | |
|---|------------------------|
| MAIN CHANNEL | |
| 17:30 | Koran |
| 17:40 | Cartoons |
| 18:05 | Children Programme |
| 18:30 | 1 Caa Jump Puddles |
| 19:20 | Programme review |
| 19:30 | Local Programme |
| 20:00 | News in Arabic |
| 20:30 | Arabic Series |
| 21:30 | Local Programme |
| 22:30 | Local Programme |
| 23:00 | News in Arabic |
| 23:10 | Programme Continued |
| FOREIGN CHANNEL | |
| 18:00 | French Programme |
| 19:00 | News in French |
| 19:30 | News in Hebrew |
| 21:30 | The Jewel in the Crown |
| 21:30 | Science International |
| 21:30 | Comedy: Dr. At Large |
| 22:00 | News in English |
| 22:15 | Verdi — Eps. 1 |
| RADIO JORDAN | |
| 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9500 KHz, SW | |
| 07:00 | Light Music |
| 07:30 | Newsday |
| 08:00 | Morning Show |
| 10:00 | News Summary |
| 10:05 | Morning Show |
| 11:00 | Pop Session |
| 12:00 | News Summary |
| 12:05 | Pop Session |
| 13:00 | News Summary |
| 13:05 | Pop Session |
| 14:00 | News Bulletin |
| 14:10 | Instrumentals |
| 14:30 | Over a Cup of Tea |
| 15:00 | Concert Hour |
| 16:00 | News Summary |
| 16:05 | Instrumentals |
| 16:30 | Old Favourites |
| 17:00 | Classical Show Case |
| 17:30 | Pop Session |
| 18:00 | News Summary |
| 18:05 | Sports Round-up |
| 18:30 | Arabian Nights |
| 19:00 | Newsday |
| 19:30 | Date with a Star |
| 20:00 | Evening Show |
| 21:00 | News Summary |
| 21:05 | News Summary |
| 23:00 | News Summary |
| 24:00 | News Headlines |

| WHAT'S GOING ON | |
|--|------------------|
| TODAY'S EVENTS | |
| EXHIBITIONS | |
| * Paintings exhibition by Dutch artist Janine Seif at the Arts and Crafts Gallery from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. | |
| * Paintings exhibition by Haid Shari Nemer at the Royal Cultural Centre, 5:00 p.m. | |
| FILM | |
| * "Song of Myself" starts at the American Centre at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. | |
| VIDEO | |
| * "La Chasse Au Tresor Au Set Lanka" starts at the French Cultural Centre at 4:00 p.m. | |
| CULTURAL CENTRES | |
| Royal Cultural Centre, Tel. 661 0267 | |
| American Centre, 44371 | |
| American Centre Library, 41520 | |
| British Council, 36147-8 | |
| French Cultural Centre, 37009 | |
| Hussein Youth City, 667181 | |
| Y.W.C.A., 41795 | |
| Y.W.M.C.A., 664251 | |
| Amman Municipal Library, 36111 | |
| University of Jordan Library, 849353 | |
| MUSEUMS | |
| Folklore Museum Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. — 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760. | |
| Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. | |
| Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century | |
| orientalist artists. Mumtaz, Jabal Leventeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. — 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128. | |
| Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. — 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240. | |
| SERVICE CLUBS | |
| Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m. | |
| Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m. | |
| Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m. | |
| Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m. | |
| Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261. | |
| CHURCHES | |
| St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590. | |
| Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Leventeh, 37440. | |
| De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Leventeh, 661757. | |
| Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541. | |
| Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559. | |
| Armenian Catholic Church Asrafieh, 71331. | |
| Armenian Orthodox Church Asrafieh, 72521. | |
| St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Asrafieh, 71751. | |
| Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Smezzani, 663249. | |
| PRAYER TIMES | |
| 05:00 | Fajr |
| 05:15 | (Sunrise) Shuruq |
| 11:30 | Dhuhr |
| 12:15 | 'Asr |
| 18:05 | Maghrib |
| 19:26 | Isha |

| FOR THE TRAVELLER | |
|--|--|
| AMMAN AIRPORT | |
| This information is supplied by Alia International Airport. For more information, contact the Alia International Airport at (08) 532520, where it should always be verified. | |
| ARRIVALS | |
| 07:00 | Cairo (MS) |
| 08:05 | Kuwait (KU) |
| 08:15 | Abu Dhabi (RJ) |
| 09:30 | Jeddah (RJ) |
| 09:45 | Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ) |
| 09:55 | Cairo (MS) |
| 09:55 | Muscat, Dubai (RJ) |
| 10:00 | Doha, Bahrain (RJ) |
| 12:30 | Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GA) |
| 14:40 | Kuwait (KU) |
| 15:10 | Jeddah, Medina (SV) |
| 15:25 | Belgrade, Istanbul (JU) |
| 17:00 | Athens (RJ) |
| 18:20 | Bangkok (RJ) |
| 18:30 | Cairo (MS) |
| 19:05 | Cairo (MS) |
| 22:30 | Baghdad (IA) |
| 00:30 | Cairo (RJ) |
| 00:45 | Baghdad (RJ) |
| DEPARTURES | |
| 05:45 | Kuwait (KU) |
| 07:00 | Amman (RJ) |
| 08:05 | Cairo (MS) |
| 08:30 | Athens (GA) |
| 10:45 | Athens (RJ) |
| 11:00 | Amsterdam, New York (RJ) |
| 11:30 | Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ) |
| 12:00 | Paris, London (RJ) |
| 12:15 | Geneva, Frankfurt (RJ) |
| 12:30 | Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ) |
| 13:30 | Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF) |
| 14:30 | Cairo (RJ) |
| 15:40 | Kuwait (KU) |
| 16:25 | Istanbul, Belgrade (JU) |
| 16:40 | Medina, Jeddah (SV) |
| 17:30 | Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ) |
| 19:40 | Jeddah (RJ) |
| 20:45 | Cairo (MS) |
| 21:15 | Baghdad (RJ) |
| 22:30 | Cairo (RJ) |
| 23:30 | Abu Dhabi, Dubai (IA) |
| 24:00 | Lisbon, Rio de Janeiro (IA) |
| MARITIME TRAFFIC | |
| Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: | |
| — Cherif De Chateau | |
| — Rostock | |
| — Delfinagon | |
| — Mita Ousalek | |

King watches army division manoeuvres

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday visited army units of the 12th Royal Mechanised Division and watched their military manoeuvres.

Before the exercises, the King was briefed by the unit commander on the training and duties of the troops while after the exercises he met the troops and expressed his appreciation for their

competence and their loyalty.

The King said he was happy to see the troops handling the most up to date weapons with such high efficiency, and urged them to be vigilant and ready to carry out their duties and tasks in defence of the nation.

King Hussein was accompanied on his visit by the Army Chief of Staff Lt-Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb.

Algiers meeting aims to boost farm, food output

AMMAN (Petra) — The board of the Arab Centre for the Study of Dry Regions and Arid Territories has taken a number of important decisions designed to improve farm and food production in the Arab World, Agriculture Ministry Under-Secretary Salem Lawzi said here Sunday.

He was speaking upon his return to Amman from Algiers where the board held a five-day meeting.

The board has recommended that Jordan, Syria, Iraq and Saudi Arabia continue contacts in co-operation with the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development to develop the Hamad Basin, an area of land bordering their regions, Dr. Lawzi said.

He said that the board also endorsed an agreement on technical

co-operation between Arab states and UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation), which has decided to hold three courses on meteorology and a conference on animal husbandry in semi-arid regions in Syria this year.

The board also endorsed a project for studying ways of conserving underground water and preserving the soil around the Zarqa River and Wadi Duleil in Jordan.

It also approved a project for the production of improved breeds of sheep to be distributed throughout the Arab states, he added.

Representatives from 18 Arab countries as well as Arab and regional organisations attended the meeting, Dr. Lawzi said.

Dispute with president leads to board resignation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Eight members of the 12-member board of the Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA) have tendered their resignations in protest against the dictatorial attitude of the president.

Interviewed by the local press, the resigning members said that the president tends to make arbitrary decisions without referring to the board members and that board meetings are marked by continuous and futile arguments which make it impossible to take any constructive decisions.

The resigning members say it is impossible for them to work as a team with the president Ghaleb

Sabbarin, and they have demanded his resignation as the price for them staying on.

Mr. Sabbarin was reported as saying he would take the resignations to the health minister, Dr. Kamel Ajlouni, Sunday to whom he was expected to present his case.

According to the JPA law, the resignation of five board members will automatically bring about a dissolution of the board and new elections must be held within a month of the dissolution to choose a new board.

The annual JPA general assembly meeting is expected Friday.

Water project loans to be discussed in Washington

AMMAN (J.T.) — National Planning Council (NPC) President Omar Dakhan will go to Washington in the coming week to negotiate loans for Jordan's water and sewerage projects with World Bank officials.

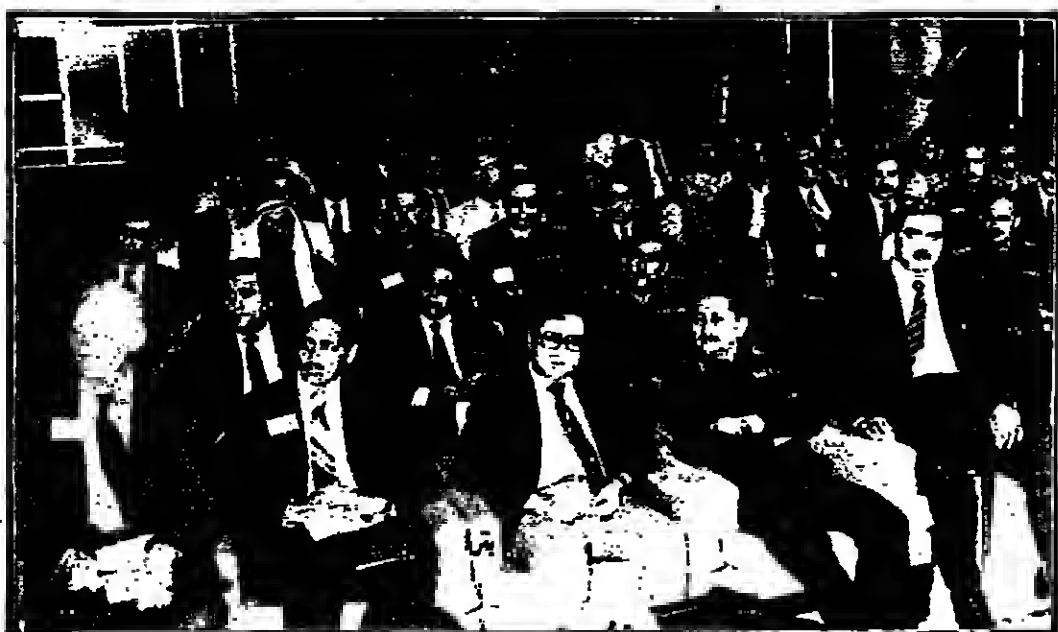
During his week-long visit, Mr. Dakhan is also expected to hold talks with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) on the prospect of obtaining loans to finance a number of development projects in Jordan.

Representatives from the Water Authority and the NPC will accompany Mr. Dakhan on the visit.

Last week, Mr. Dakhan held talks with officials from the European Investment Bank in Luxembourg on the prospect of receiving a loan from the Cities and Villages Development Bank to help finance projects to be undertaken by municipalities in Jordan.



Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni is Sunday shown around the exhibition of the latest equipment and technology used in the treatment of accidents and emergencies (Photo by Yusef Al 'Allan)



Delegates, including Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni (third from left seated front), listen to the opening speeches Sunday at the conference on the medical provisions for emergency cases, especially in relation to road accidents (Photo by Yusef Al 'Allan)

Twelve struck down by food poisoning in Zarqa

AMMAN (J.T.) — Twelve people including five children have been struck down by food poisoning and are under treatment at the Zarqa government hospital.

The hospital director, Dr. Usama Abdul Hadi, said the poisoning was caused by drinking yoghurt bought from a street vendor in Ruseifa.

He appealed to the public to refrain from drinking or eating any kind of food of milk products purchased from vendors for fear of poisoning.

Such food is normally prepared using improper and unhygienic methods and therefore can cause food poisoning, Dr. Abdul Hadi said.

The victims, all members of two neighbouring families from Ruseifa, were admitted to the hospital in Zarqa Friday at noon but some of them have now been discharged, having received treatment, Dr. Abdul Hadi added.

Health Minister Kamel Ajlouni visited the sick people at the hospital Saturday to examine the situation and enquire after their

condition.

He said later that the Health Ministry will adopt strict measures against street vendors who sell products without an official licence issued by the ministry.

The Ministry of Health will also intensify campaigns against such vendors in remote areas and rural regions, the minister said.

Gas cylinder explodes in Irbid centre

IRBID (J.T.) — A gas cylinder blew up in the centre of Irbid Friday causing damage to a house and nearby stores.

A police spokesman said that the cylinder exploded due to excessive heat and pressure at the entrance to a house.

The explosion caused severe damage to the doors and windows in the vicinity, but no casualties were reported.

Dentistry conference slated

AMMAN (J.T.) — An international conference on dentistry will open at the Professional Association Complex on April 12 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The conference is being organised by the Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) in co-operation with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

According to JDA president Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Haj, the conference will include seminars in which dentists from the private and public sectors as well as WHO will take part. In the conference itself, delegates from Jordan, the U.S., France, Iraq, and Syria will present working papers on modern trends in dentistry, Dr. Haj said.

During the course of the conference there will be an exhibition of medical equipment used in dentistry to be organised by the JDA.

Talks on emergency health focuses on road accidents

By Affab A. Kaboti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Traffic congestion and the lack of special road lanes for ambulances to drive quickly to hospitals is one of the main obstacles hampering speedy medical treatment for emergency cases, Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni said Sunday.

Speaking at the opening session of a two day conference held on "Accidents and Emergencies" at the Professional Association Complex, Dr. Ajlouni said that according to available statistics, the delay caused by traffic congestion and other obstacles facing emergency ambulances carrying patients has resulted in a deterioration in the condition of patients and even fatalities, that could have been avoided if immediate treatment had been administered.

Dr. Ajlouni stressed that medical services should reach citizens wherever they are in the Kingdom and that Amman is not the only area in need of health services. "All clinics and medical centres all over the country should be able to handle emergency cases," he said.

Dr. Ajlouni, in his opening speech, gave special attention to child care and treatment for "they are our future."

At the conclusion of his speech, the Minister of Health called on the conference participants to take into consideration the geographical nature of each country participating and their financial capabilities in making use of medical facilities available in their countries "without trying to adopt theories that cannot be applied in the countries concerned."

Dr. Ajlouni said that there is no harm in benefiting from foreign expertise but he rejected totally the wholesale importation of planning.

The conference, which is being organised by the Jordan Medical Association (JMA) Scientific Committee and the Jordan Paediatric Association, is being attended by 42 scientists and doctors from Arab and foreign countries.

The two-day conference will deal with the aetiology and management of trauma sustained by children and young adults. The scientific programme will feature papers which reflect the latest advances in management and the prevention of injuries at work and home and those caused by road traffic.

The conference also aims to strengthen the basis for future studies and research on emergency cases and accidents in Jordan and the Arab World.

At the opening session, the JMA president, Hassan Khureis, also addressed the audience and pointed out that the world daily faces sudden emergencies which include road accidents, burns, cases of individual and collective poisonings as well as natural catastrophes.

Dr. Khureis said that "in view of our location in this tension ridden area and because of Zionist aggression and in light of our national responsibilities we have to face the consequences of wars and aggression. Therefore," he added, "handling emergency cases and accidents are of paramount importance to Jordan."

Dr. Khureis said that it is important to hold similar conferences and to conduct regular, sound reassessments of our experience so as to improve our first aid and emergency services.

A member of the JMA Scientific Committee and the co-ordinator of the conference, Hisham Nazer, also spoke saying the agenda of the conference is both significant and of urgent importance to all Jordanian medical institutions.

To that effect, Dr. Nazer said, the Ministry's of Health initiative to hold such a conference is very much appreciated for it will help speed a comprehensive appraisal of Jordanian experience in the emergency and accident fields by the various related institutions.

Hence this will enable us to adopt recommendations which will ensure a higher standard of safety for the Jordanian people, he said.

Regarding the institutions which are presenting research papers at the conference, Dr. Nazer said that most of the concerned bodies in the accident and emergency areas are participating.

They are the: Civil Defence Directorate; Social Security Corporation; Ministry of Labour; Ministry of Health; Traffic Department at the Public Security Directorate; Jordan University Hospital; Bashir Hospital; Hussein Medical Centre; and the medical departments at the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University.

Dr. Nazer pointed out that 28 research papers in the accident and emergency topic will be presented by the 42 participants during the conference's six sessions.

Due to the enormous number of road accidents, the JMA Scientific Committee suggested that the conference should focus on this topic and hence, at the conclusion of the conference, there will be a specialised medical seminar entitled "Injuries Caused by Road Accidents: The Situation, Present and Future", Dr. Nazer said.

Dr. Nazer said that this seminar will aim to define the size of the problem in order to adopt the necessary recommendations "to limit the number and seriousness of the road accident problem."

During the conference, an Arab medical services exhibition is to be held at the conference venue. The exhibition is designed to help the participants acquire knowledge of the latest developments in medical technology.

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Morocco to host meeting on social security

AMMAN (Petra) — Social Security Corporation (SSC) Director Farhi 'Obeid left for Morocco Sunday to take part in a seminar on social security due to start in Marrakesh in the coming week.

The seminar will deal with obstacles impeding the application of social security laws in Arab states and suggested solutions, as well as related topics pertaining to compensation for old age, death and injuries.

Mr. 'Obeid is being accompanied on the visit by a two-member delegation.

Reformatory, despite limited services, scores well in social, academic and vocational training

By Elias Jiries
and
Ela Nasrallah

AMMAN — Usama Ibn Zaid Reformatory and Rehabilitation Centre in Zarqa has lots to offer juvenile delinquents in turning them into useful citizens. The two-storey centre was established in 1981 and is run under the supervision of the social defence department at the Ministry of Social Development.

The centre handles 12 to 18 year-old male delinquents referred to it by Jordanian law courts, and has so far dealt with 1,000 cases since its establishment. At present there are 73 delinquents trained and supervised by a staff of 23 who handle the youth's vocational, social and academic education.

The centre offers the delinquents full accommodation, medication in addition to vocational training, free of charge, but the services are still not up to the required standard, according to its Director Mohammad Al Ghadir.

Three functions

He said: "The centre is really divided into three sections of which the first are specialises in social rehabilitation. This section aims to return the young delinquent to a family environment after first getting him to behave normally."

To do this the centre has employed social workers who visit the centre frequently to study the dif-

ferent cases and also to visit the families of the delinquents to offer advice for the future.

"The second section specialises in academic rehabilitation which is designed to return the delinquents to school life. At least 27 delinquents are at present regular school attendants."

"The third section is for vocational training, and the delinquents are here offered training in a number of trades both inside the centre and outside."

Causes of delinquency

In the light of his experiences, Mr. Ghadir believes that young children turn into delinquents primarily because of an unstable family life caused mainly by divorce, death of both parents, the father marrying again, the absence of the father from the home and a failure of parents to exercise complete control over their sons. He says the unsuitability of the home and its environment create a situation where by a young child can go astray.

"Many of the young boys we have here came from unhealthy and crowded homes that have no proper sanitation or basic services. Some of them were found to have made friends among common thieves because they had no one to guide them and control their behaviour at home or, due to poverty, they turned to stealing, Mr. Ghadir said.

But according to Mr. Ghadir, 80 per cent of the cases being handled at the centre are those who committed acts of theft and robbery or were caught pickpocketing.

However, he said, there are delinquents who were arrested for fighting, sexual assault and even murder.

He said that many of those convicted of theft had broken into pharmacies and drug stores to steal sedative pills which the delinquents have been found to be addicted but this problem, he pointed out, is being tackled by the centre's psychiatrist.

The juvenile delinquents

Among the present inmates is 13-year-old H.M., the youngest in the centre, who told us that he left school while he was in the fourth elementary class.

"I had lost interest in learning after repeating my class twice without success and had to spend most of my time on the streets," the boy said.

He added: "I was sentenced to four months in prison because I had stolen two bicycles after my father had refused to buy me one although he could easily afford it."

"In the centre I have received training in sewing and, after I leave the centre I intend to work as a tailor and to play a useful role in society. I really regret what I did and I am also very sad because none of my family ever visit me here."

Another delinquent, who is 17 years-old and identified by the centre only as A.T., told us that he dropped out of school after making friends with a gang of five robbers who were in the habit of spending the day in the cinema and stealing at night.

He said: "We had stolen JD

3,000 from a store in the city but were caught by the police and sent to court for trial."

"I have spent three out of the five years I was sentenced to in this centre but I have not wasted my time as I have learned carpentry."

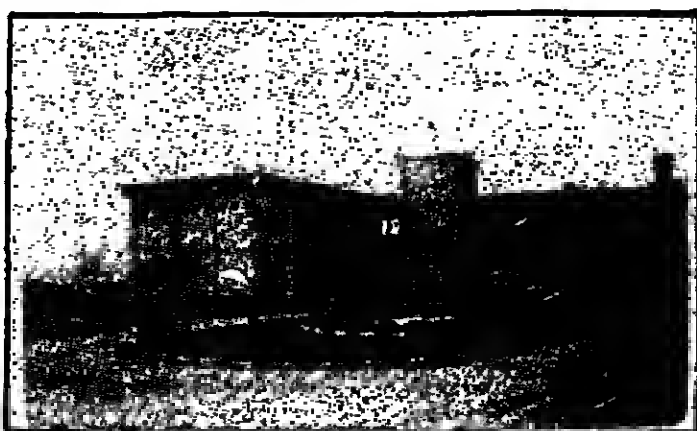
"At the movies, I used to watch robbers breaking into banks and stores, while at home I received no care or attention and this led me astray. I advise young men to keep away from bad and evil men, refrain from smoking and above all never watch films depict violence and robbery."

The third delinquent we met at the centre was 18-year old H.K. who also left school at an early age to which his father had not objected. "My father is a cruel man and used to treat me harshly, always taking sides against me, and this in my view led to my going off the straight and narrow," this young man said. He added: "I was involved in two robberies and received a two-year prison sentence after I had stolen JD 300 from a house in the city."

"In this centre I have learnt many things including the rudiments of reading and writing. Also I have been trained in carpentry to earn a living in the future. I do not intend to live with my parents any more as I want to have complete independence."

Social workers

Two social workers employed by the centre, Hanan Bahawan and Fatima Jarrar, told us about their work. They said that the presence of female social workers in the centre is far better than males



The Usama Ibn Zaid Reformatory and Rehabilitation Centre in Zarqa (J.T. file photo)

because the delinquents look upon females as mothers or sisters and accept their advice more readily.

In fact we treat them with care and give them proper attention and, from our own experience, we have found that social workers can play a leading role in reforming delinquents, they said.

Also, they added: "We make visits to their homes and talk to members of their families to give guidance and sometimes we recommend that certain delinquents be released after they have adopted normal behavioural patterns."

Centre's activities

The centre has a variety of activities like clay moulding and ceramic works, drawing and painting, according to Miss Laila Quba'ain

the arts and social activity supervisor.

She said that the centre plans to mount an exhibition to display the diversity of the inmates' work. In addition to these activities, she said, the centre offers the delinquents the chance to hold cultural meetings, evening parties and gatherings. They also take part in preparing the centre's wall journal and in participating in social or religious celebrations.

Sport

Mr. Majed Rahhal is the centre's evening sports supervisor who told us that the young men take part in games like football, volleyball, basketball, table tennis and athletics.

The centre takes part in competitions with other centres or

schools under the supervision of the Ministry of Education. There is another supervisor for the morning shift and both are employed by the Ministry of Education.

But both coaches complain about the small size of the playing fields and speak keenly about a proposed JD 30,000 plan to lay out a proper football field this year and another to constructing a winter hall for sports activities.

Health

The centre employs a full-time male nurse, Yusuf Bqa'in who said that his clinic satisfies the general health needs of the centre.

"I give education lessons on general health care, infectious diseases and ways of combating them as well as first aid," Mr. Bqa'in said.

He said the Health Ministry sends a physician to the centre once a week for a general medical examination of the inmates and, in emergency cases, are residents can be transferred to hospitals.

The centre is also playing host to a postgraduate student, Dhiyab Al Badaneh, who is preparing his Masters thesis involving case studies at the centre.

Mr. Badaneh's work is focussing on the psychological guidance given to the inmates and the cause of their delinquency.

Mr. Ghadir has offered several suggestions to improve the situation at the centre and to reduce the crime rate.

He said: "The delinquents' problems could be reduced if the government adopts useful information programmes that can

guide the younger generation before they deviate from the rules of the society."

Drawbacks

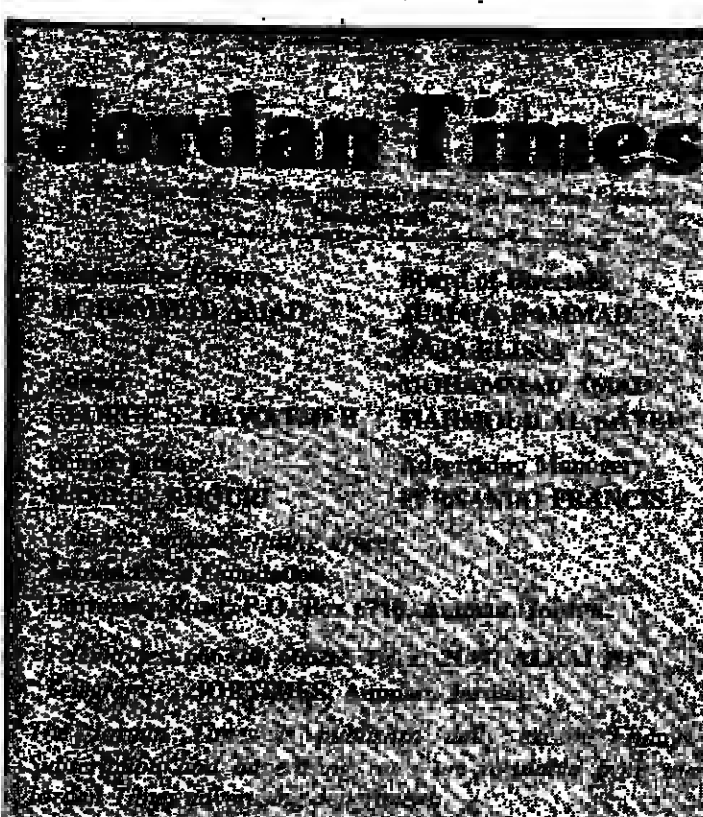
As to the difficulties and problems at the centre he said: "The centre has no telephone and we have been trying to have one installed in vain. The telephone is essential for our work and for emergency cases when we have to call in the police in the case of an accident or a sudden outbreak of illness."

"The centre also has a problem connected with the families of the inmates. They do rarely co-operate with the centre and seldom visit their sons here. When the youths are released a day or two at a time for leave, they are rarely made to feel welcome by the family whose members usually neglect them," he said.

"Another problem is connected with evening supervisors who work more than eight hours on each shift and do not get any for this allowances. This has led to a large turnover of staff who frequently leave when they find a better paid job somewhere else."

Also, he said, the centre has no driver for its vehicles on the evening shift and thus finds itself without any means of transport or telephone at night.

The food given to the inmates is also not sufficient and the books in the library are not enough for the students. "We hope that the Ministry of Social Development will find ways of solving the centre's problems so that we can carry out our mission in the best way possible," he concluded.



An inspiring lead

IT WAS indeed heartening to hear the news that the 23 Palestinian women incarcerated in the Ramleh prison by the Israelis had won their demands for better conditions. In a region where the Palestinian people seem to have suffered one reverse after another over the last three generations, such a victory cannot but act as an inspiration to all people fighting against oppression, no matter where they may be.

The example set by the Ramleh women also has a number of implications of which the Arab World in general should take note.

Firstly, it showed exactly what can be accomplished by even a small number of people when united in the pursuit of a common goal, though they might face the full might of a repressive state machine.

Secondly, the iron will and determination of these women was a lesson in commitment to those who all too easily, whether through faint heartedness or expediency, follow a capitulatory course. The women's strike, during which they were subject to even greater depths of inhuman treatment, lasted for 10 months part of which time the women were on hunger strike. At times, no doubt, it seemed to many to be a futile struggle which could never succeed.

Thirdly, the aid and encouragement given to the prisoners by certain international organisations and Jewish women's groups should give the Palestinians a feeling of always-available solidarity. Just because the news is dominated by ultra-Zionist U.S. politicians and weak-willed European leaders does not mean that the Palestinians do not have genuine friends around the world. The support shown by the Jewish women is important evidence that there are Jews even in Israel who are ready to work together with Arabs to redress real injustice.

One can only hope that the Arab masses and governments alike take full notice of the courageous stand of the Ramleh women prisoners. For to miss the full meaning of their struggle is to do them a grave disservice.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israeli rampage of Lebanon

ISRAEL'S RECENT activities in Lebanon indicate that it is going ahead with plans for re-shaping the country's political map with the purpose of achieving its goals and objectives and for imposing its hegemony over the Lebanese people and their future.

Israeli intentions were manifested in its aerial bombardment of targets in Bhamdoun, its appointment of Antoine Lahad as successor to Sa'ad Haddad, Israel's agent in southern Lebanon and its current massing of troops at Bekaa.

No doubt the continuation of the internal conflict among Lebanon's factions can only encourage Israel to go ahead with its devilish plans and pave the way for new acts of aggression.

The Beirut government is now called on to condemn Lahad and his treacherous actions in South Lebanon and his alliance with the Israeli enemy. It also should put an end to extremism displayed by the Falangist militias and its leader Fadi Aghra who had been calling for the partition of Lebanon into semi-autonomous cantons and the maintenance of the May 17 agreement between Israel and Lebanon. The Beirut government should take action now and not stand idly by and see the forces of evil working towards the destruction of Lebanon. It has to find the means to safeguard the unity and territorial sovereignty of the country.

Al Dustour: King explains stance

ISRAEL WOULD not have pursued an intransigent position and a hardened attitude towards peace initiatives had it not been for continued U.S. financial and military assistance.

This was explained by King Hussein Saturday to a visiting American delegation whose members were briefed on Jordan's stand and Israel's continued drive to annex the occupied Arab lands. King Hussein said that Jordan has been working for peace based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which ensure a return of Arab land in exchange for peace. If this is a pre-condition for the establishment of peace then why, asked King Hussein, should one negotiate? All Israeli talk about peace is a ploy to mislead world public opinion, since Israel refuses to accept the right of the Palestinian people to their homeland, a basic and fundamental element for any peace.

King Hussein's briefing to the delegation put matters in their right perspective and explained Jordan's principles which are in line with those of Arab countries.

Sawt Al Shaab: Violating human rights

OVER THE past years Israel has been showing hardened and intransigent attitudes vis-a-vis the establishment of a just and durable Middle East peace. This recent declaration by Washington of U.S. intentions to increase American assistance to the Zionist state has further encouraged that attitude and urged the Israelis to intensify their plans of building settlements in the occupied territories, re-introducing a revival of the colonialist policies that were cast away by world nations after the World War II.

These facts were put into their right perspective by King Hussein at a meeting Saturday evening with a visiting delegation from the U.S. National Defence University. He made clear Jordan's stand towards the issue and the country's endeavours to establish peace on the basis of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 and 338, which guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

As the King said, it is rather illogical for the United States to continue supporting Israel's policies and at the same time speak about peace. It is illogical for the United States as a superpower to continue violating basic human rights, principles and continue to be champion of human rights in the world.

Incoherence, not Congress led to Lebanon fiasco

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — Secretary of State George Shultz has been complaining insistently about congressional restraints on the Reagan administration's foreign policy. He is particularly chafed by the War Powers Act, which he blames somehow for the fiasco in Lebanon. There is thought of asking the Supreme Court to rule it unconstitutional.

Mr. Shultz says that relations between the executive and Congress are "badly defective" and "unsatisfactory." He has a point. Capitol Hill has been braking the administration's muscular plans in Lebanon and Central America. The two branches of government do not share the same idea of what the United States should and could do about those conflicts.

He is also right that this leads to confusion among friends and adversaries about what they can expect. A successful foreign policy requires the United States to show "reasonable predictability and reliability," as he says.

But it needs a lot more than that. It needs a correct assessment of the troubles that the United States confronts, and of the consequences of its words as well as of its deeds.

Mr. Shultz said himself that "we have to be very careful when we say that we will have to do thus and so or that we think something isn't tolerable or acceptable." U.S. credibility is damaged not only by failing to carry out threats but also by having made unwieldy threats and unreasonable promises in the first place.

There is an enormous leap between failing to convince Congress that the administration is on the right track, especially where lives are involved, and blaming duty constituted laws for that failure. The secretary does not seem to consider the possibility that better crafted policy, more candidly explained, might win more of the support of which he feels deprived.

He told James Reston of The New York Times that the United States had a good diplomatic plan but it had the rug pulled out from underneath it in Lebanon.

The record is revealing. There is now convincing evidence that Washington endorsed the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and that then Secretary of State Alexander Haig was aware of General Ariel Sharon's intention to go all the way to Beirut. The Marines were sent to help end the murderous siege by ensuring the safe withdrawal of

Yasser Arafat and his PLO fighters. Then the Marines left. Soon after came the huge massacre in the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatila. The Marines, and allied troops, were sent back to prevent a recurrence.

Then the United States promoted the May 17 Israeli-Lebanese agreement. President Gemayel said later he had warned that it could never work without Syria's accord. He said Mr. Shultz told him not to worry, the United States is a big power and it could arrange such things.

U.S. diplomats throughout the Middle East knew Syria would not agree. Some tried to tell Mr. Shultz and were nearly removed for the effort. Others noted that he did not want to be told the plan would not work. He was determined to score the "success" of getting a document signed. And that much he achieved.

It led to partial Israeli troop withdrawal, with plenty of notice. Washington then realised that more fighting would erupt among the Lebanese, but it could not make the Israelis stay after brokering a withdrawal plan.

So the United States began to intervene in the fighting. The initial "peacekeeping" mission of the Marines and their navy support

was converted into the task of helping Mr. Gemayel fight his over-armed compatriots. It was precisely to avert such a trap that Congress invoked the War Powers Act in the first place.

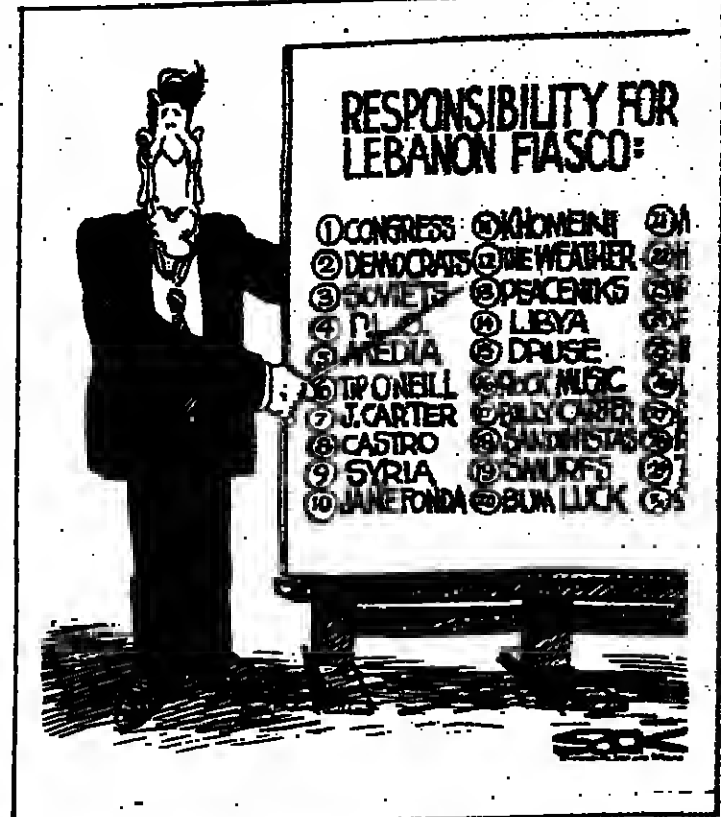
The barracks bombing was dramatic demonstration that the executive had indeed made badly deployed, not inadequate U.S. forces a party to the conflict, not just neutral peacekeepers, against the expressed will of Congress. It was not the "terrorists" themselves who drove out the Marines. It was the proof they have that administration policy had been inconsistent and incoherent.

In Central America, there have been repeated zigzags from the Reagan administration on the purpose of training and supplying Nicaraguan rebels. Sometimes we are told it is to make the Sandinists democratic, sometimes it is to overthrow them. El Salvador has been a waffle. The U.S. military role in Honduras is murky, at best.

Does Mr. Shultz's grievance at congressional restraint mean that the Reagan administration seeks freedom to send tens of thousands of troops into both Lebanon and Central America? Does it want to play the role the Russians are playing in Afghanistan? The effect would be about the same, probably worse.

Even suspicion of bumbling into this should make Americans, and the White House, too, grateful to

Congress. The administration has been spared the burden of military mistakes that it was not allowed to make. — The New York Times.



Chernenko expected to be named USSR president this week

By Mark Wood

Reuter

MOSCOW — Soviet Communist Party chief Konstantin Chernenko is expected to secure the title of state president this week at an inaugural session of a new Soviet parliament which may also endorse changes in the government.

But it is a closed-door meeting of the party central committee beforehand which is likely to provide the test of how far Mr. Chernenko has obtained support by the party leadership.

The meeting of the two-chamber Supreme Soviet on Wednesday follows parliamentary elections last month and will have the primary task of endorsing appointments to all the top state and government posts.

Informed Soviet sources said Mr. Chernenko, 72, was virtually certain to be named president, following his predecessors Leonid Brezhnev and Yuri Andropov in combining the posts of both state

and party leader.

Western diplomats also said they expected Mr. Chernenko to acquire the presidency two months after he became party leader even though Mr. Andropov had to wait seven months.

"Since the whole presidium has to be re-elected it is most unlikely they will leave the presidency vacant and there is no reason past arguments for combining the posts should not apply to Mr. Chernenko," one diplomat said.

The parliamentary session, expected to last two days, also offers Mr. Chernenko the chance to reshuffle the Soviet government and there has been speculation that Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov, 79 next month, may step down.

If he does so, two politburo members stand out as likely successors: Gaidar Aliyev, 60, who is already a first deputy premier, and Vitaly Vorotnikov, 57, who is premier of the Russian Federation.



Konstantin Chernenko

But most diplomats said they were now doubtful that there would be such a major change at present. "In the past few weeks there has been a distinct lack of the kind of leaks and rumours one would expect before such an upheaval," one said.

They said that if there were no major changes at the top of the

government it would be a sign that Mr. Chernenko did not yet have the power to push through his own choices and preferred to leave his ally Mr. Tikhonov in place.

But clearer signs of Mr. Chernenko's position may emerge from the central committee plenum, which is likely to last only one day and is expected to take place on Tuesday.

Western analysts doubt if Mr. Chernenko would be able to promote any allies to full politburo membership but say he may be in a position to name new non-voting candidate members.

Still more important will be indications of how far Mr. Gorbachev, 53, has consolidated his position as heir-apparent.

Mr. Gorbachev is believed to have been Mr. Andropov's own choice as successor but to have lost a lengthy power battle with Mr. Chernenko. Soviet sources said in February that he had been made Kremlin number two as part of a compromise deal.

But Mr. Gorbachev has not so far obtained the prestigious and powerful post of ideology chief, which both Mr. Chernenko and Mr. Andropov held before they came to power. Diplomats said the plenum would be a suitable occasion to fill the vacant post.

"One can conceive of some kind of deal under which Gorbachev supports Chernenko's presidency in return for the ideology portfolio," one diplomat said.

"Nevertheless you can be sure Chernenko would prefer to stop Gorbachev getting ideology — once he's there he's really strengthened his power," she added.

Mr. Gorbachev has been the main driving force behind a series of economic reforms and a shake-up in the state administration which Mr. Chernenko supporters are believed to oppose.

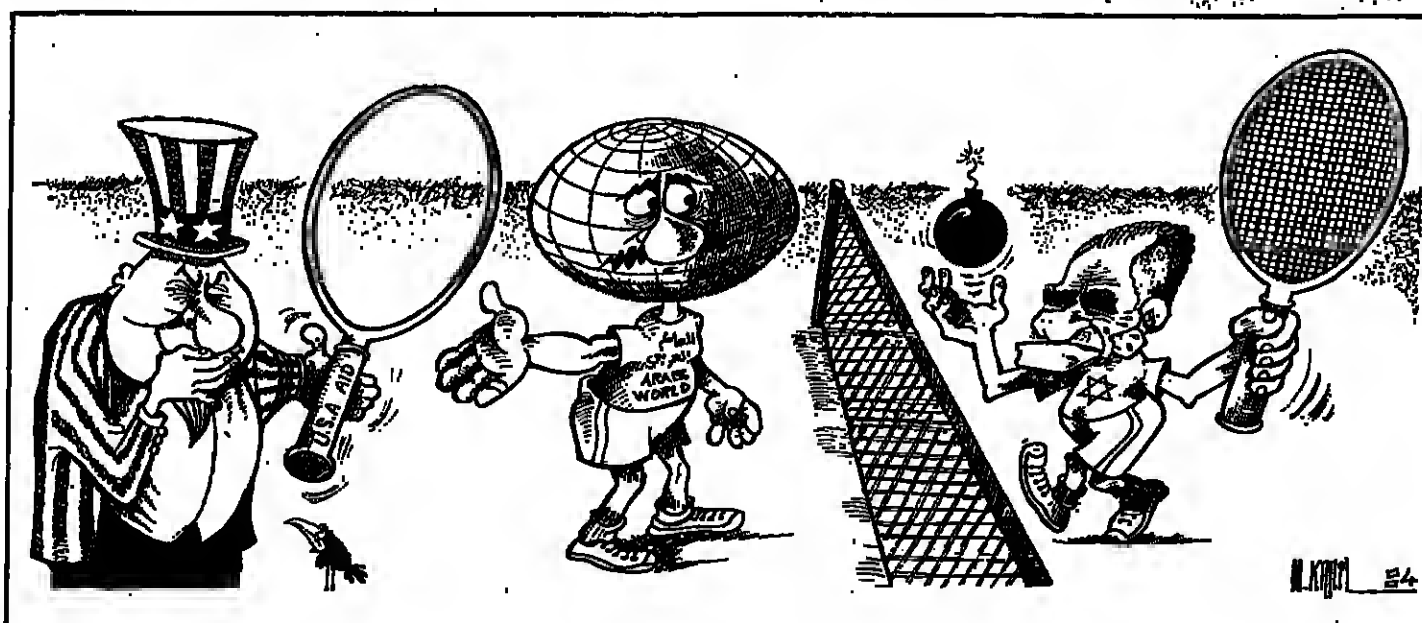
Analysts said the future of the reform course would probably depend on Mr. Gorbachev's strength within the politburo and failure to secure ideology could

signify that his position was slipping. The ideology chief also has a strong say in shaping foreign relations, which would give Mr. Gorbachev valuable experience in a future bid to succeed as party chief.

There have been signs of a continuing dispute between rival factions in the leadership in the run-up to the plenum.

Embassy experts said a series of newspaper articles praising the success of reforms introduced so far and justifying purges of incompetent officials were part of a campaign to win central committee members over to Mr. Gorbachev.

"Nothing of this will appear in print, but a lot of important discussions on future policy course will go on behind the scenes and the reformers have clearly been doing a lot of lobbying to win wavers over to their side," one commented.



Iranian clergy expected to dominate elections

By Phil Davison

Reuter

TEHRAN — Iranians will vote in mosques, schools and public buildings on April 15 to elect a new 270-member parliament, which once again is expected to be dominated by Muslim clergymen.

The new "Islamic Consultative Assembly" will serve a four-year term and replace the one elected in 1980, the first major democratic body set up after the previous year's Islamic revolution.

The one-chamber majlis, or parliament, is Iran's basic legislature, though its domain tends to be limited to domestic bills, with revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's word final on major issues, such as the 12-month-old war with Iraq.

All legislation passed by parliament must be approved by the so-called Council of Guardians, a watchdog body set up to ensure that laws are in line with Islamic tenets.

Six of the council's 12 members are religious lawyers appointed by Khomeini. The others are chosen by the judiciary and approved by parliament, a process which makes them probable Khomeini supporters.

The election is likely to have little or no effect on Iran's Gulf war policy of refusing peace negotiations until the "overthrow of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein", according to experienced diplomats in Tehran.

Despite Iran's high casualties, most Iranians still clearly support the leadership on the war issue,

feeling they were wronged when Iraq invaded in September 1980 and that Iran now has the upper hand in the conflict, the diplomats said.

Even middle class Iranians critical of the fundamental application of Islam, such as forcing women to wear veils, express support for continuing the war, they added.

The majlis's only real involvement in the war issue in the past has been to express support for government policy, with Khomeini and his Supreme Defence Council of military and other advisers taking all the military decisions.

The only barometer of public opinion in the elections may be whether, of the carefully vetted candidates, the voters choose the more or less radical clergymen, the diplomats said.

The main effect of their choice could be on such issues as a controversial land reform bill, with present deputies split between those who believe pre-revolution landowners rightfully own their land and radicals who believe it should be expropriated for the poor.

Iran's leaders, revolutionary bodies and press are giving widespread prominence to this month's elections, billing them as an opportunity for each Iranian to be represented in the decision-making process.

But critics of the clergy's influence in Iranian politics say the candidates have been either hand-picked by Islamic bodies or carefully vetted to ensure names

unacceptable to the clergy-dominated leadership do not appear on ballot slips.

The vetting procedure took place throughout the last week of March, with the background and qualifications of more than 1,500 candidates undergoing scrutiny by a formidable array of police, intelligence, judicial and revolutionary bodies.

According to the National Iranian News Agency (IRNA), these were the archives centre of the Islamic revolution, the intelligence section of the Islamic revolutionary guard corps, the Islamic revolutionary committees, the prosecutor general, the Department of Statistics, the identification office and even the international police liaison network, Interpol.

Following the vetting, acceptable candidates listed in Tehran newspapers numbered little more than 500, a third of the original applicants, though it was not clear whether further candidates might be found acceptable later.

Most of the existing deputies appeared on the new list.

When the first parliament was elected four years ago, some 3,300 candidates contested 270 seats, of which 30 go to deputies from Tehran.

Those elections were disrupted by disturbances in ethnic Kurdish areas of western and northwestern Iran, where some Kurds, particularly well-armed leftist guerrillas, are pressing for Kurdish autonomy.

But they have suffered reverses since 1980, being driven out of many of their strongholds, and are thought unlikely to be able to cause major disturbances.

Included on the published list of candidates is the present House speaker, Hajjtolestan Hashemi Rafsanjani, one of the clergymen closest to Khomeini and, like the spiritual leader, extremely popular among the Iranian masses.

His candidacy dampened speculation that he might not stand for re-election but instead replace Hossein Mousavi as prime minister.

Some foreign diplomats in Tehran said recently they had the impression that Mousavi might be replaced. But others believed Khomeini wanted to keep him on to give Iran a sense of stability against the backdrop of the costly Gulf war.

Rafsanjani clearly enjoys his present role as speaker. He does not have government responsibility, but exerts strong influence as a regular speaker at Tehran Friday prayers, where his speeches often enunciate national policies, diplomats say. He is widely expected to be re-elected.

It is the present structure of Iranian politics, much of it conducted through mosques, which convinces most diplomats here that the clergy, and particularly the high Islamic Republican Party (IRP), will again dominate the assembly.

The country's poor, devout Muslims are strongly influenced by their mullahs (clergymen), who make clear their preferences on candidates.

Elections mean little to Israeli public, a lot for leaders' careers

By Arthur Max
Associated Press

TEL AVIV — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and opposition leader Shimon Peres, both veterans of political battles, are entering a tough 100-day election campaign with their political futures on the line. Whoever loses may not get another chance.

For the Israeli public, however, there may be less at stake than the fierce tone of the election debate seems to suggest.

While there are policy differences between Shamir's Likud bloc and Peres' Labour Party, it is unlikely that either party, once in power, will be able to radically change the direction of the economy or to achieve a dazzling breakthrough in negotiating peace with the Arabs.

After seven years of Likud rule, mostly under the guidance of former Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Labour senses a real chance on July 23 to regain the power it had held for Israel's first 29 years of existence.

Polls give Labour comfortable edge as the campaign begins, but Labour's hopes to unseat Likud have been crushed repeatedly in the last seven years.

Labour is viewed as more accommodating in its policies towards the Arabs. But the parameters of what Israelis define as national security leave even the peace-promoting camps little room to manoeuvre.

Political analysts generally agree the electorate has become more interested in aggressively protecting national security, a trend that appears to work to Likud's advantage.

But Labour is counting on the same public disaffection with government that led to its own downfall in 1977. Likud's weakness is the flagging economy and rampant inflation, and the election may be decided by the priority of issues that the public chooses.

Shamir is more pragmatic than Begin, but he adheres "unswervingly" to the right-wing Likud ideology that claims all of "ancient Israel", including the occupied West Bank, belongs to the Jewish state by birthright and because of strategic necessity.

Likud rejects U.S. President

Ronald Reagan's peace proposal for West Bank autonomy in association with Jordan. It insists that any discussion of the Palestinian problem be held under the umbrella of the Camp David accords and their plan for limited local self-rule.

Labour says it wants unconditional talks with Jordan on the West Bank's future, and is prepared to discuss some points of the Reagan plan. It wants to trade most of the West Bank, including the big Palestinian cities, to Jordan in exchange for peace.

Like Likud, Labour refuses to consider relinquishing all of the West Bank or the creation of a Palestinian state on Israel's eastern frontier as demanded by the Arabs.

The Lebanon policies of the two parties gradually are converging. Labour demands an immediate withdrawal of the invasion troops that occupied southern Lebanon in June 1982. Likud says it will pull out only when the northern border is secure. In practice, the parties are likely to act similarly in office.

Neither Shamir nor Peres fire the public imagination as did Begin or the giants of the Labour Party, David Ben-Gurion and Golda Meir.

Both are uninspiring shekels, but both are considered solid leaders and good at dealing with political in-fighting.

Labour has buried its rivalries for the first time since the late Mrs. Meir left politics in 1974, uniting behind Peres as its candidate for prime minister.

Peres, 61, led the party to its two previous electoral defeats. He is less popular with the public than either former President Yitzhak Navon or former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, but Peres has the party machinery solidly behind him. That support could disintegrate if he loses again.

Shamir, 68, who is expected to be confirmed as his party's nominee next Thursday, is untested in elections. He took over after Begin's retirement last September, defeating his closest rival David Levy in an internal Likud election.

If Shamir loses, pressure from his party critics and his age may eliminate him from future contests.

Olympic Games preparations on schedule, LAOOC chief says

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado (AP) — Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee (LAOOC), on Saturday promised the U.S. Olympic committee's house of delegates that games preparations were on schedule, but "we still have a great amount of work ahead of us."

"The success of the games, in our opinion, will depend largely on elements outside our control," Ueberroth said. "The success of the games will depend on southern Californians and how they accept the games, their attitude."

"It will depend on what countries participate. The Los Angeles area sometimes has freakish weather which could affect the games. And security is a huge factor. On some of these matters we have no control, on others we do."

the socialist bloc nations has told us of their plans. I think they'll come, I hope they'll come."

Ueberroth said if the Soviets boycott, "it would obviously make the games smaller. It would lessen the importance of the games because the games are designed to bring all the best athletes in the world together."

"It would also have a negative effect on the financing of our games because of the TV contract we have."

"But the Soviets' preparations are extensive. They have two groups of athletes competing in the Los Angeles area right now, and their television people are there making preparations. I think they'll come. I hope they'll come."

Ueberroth said he wanted to assure the Soviet Union that the LAOOC "is making every effort to give them a fair chance to compete. I'm not sure they're convinced that's true, but it is. I think the American people will welcome athletes from all countries."

"That's another concern the Soviets have. A third concern of theirs is security, and we're making every possible effort to ease those concerns."

USOC President Lillian E. Simon agreed with Ueberroth's assessment of the boycott issue. "I feel it's in the best interests of the USSR to compete," said Simon. "They have a superlative athletic team, they're great. We'll pray a lot (that they'll come)."

Barefoot runner becomes British

LONDON (AP) — Record-breaking South African athlete Zola Budd, 17, pledged to run her heart out for Britain after learning Friday she had been granted British citizenship.

Her new citizenship opens the way for the fastest woman in the world over 5,000 metres to run for Britain in the Summer Olympics.

"This is what I've been waiting for. I'll run my heart out for Britain... I'm so happy. The wait has all been worthwhile," she said in an exclusive interview to Saturday's edition of the London Daily Mail.

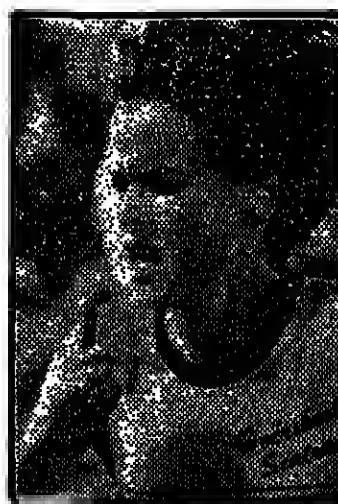
"My grandfather was born here and that means I've British blood. I'm really delighted to be given the chance to run for this country," she added.

This weekend my parents and I will move into our first real English home. It's a beautiful place near some marvelous running country, and now I have my British papers it will really feel at home."

"It's been a great turmoil these last few weeks leaving South Africa and starting life again here. But now I know I have British citizenship I have to concentrate again just on running."

The Daily Mail, which is believed to have bought exclusive rights to her story after helping bring her and her family to Britain, did not say where Miss Budd's new home was.

The speedy granting of citizenship to the 17-year-old Miss Budd came less than two weeks after she flew into Britain secretly on March 24 from South Africa, whose nationals are barred from international sporting competition.



Zola Budd

Asked if Miss Budd's citizenship application was given priority treatment, home office spokesman Neil Hayes told the Associated Press: "She is apparently a person of exceptional talent and we try to exercise discretion to assist such people. She's British now."

The barefoot runner, raised on a farm in South Africa's predominantly Afrikaans Orange Free State province, made no immediate public comment.

Since arriving, she has spoken only to a London newspaper, the Daily Mail, which brought her to Britain. Her South African coach, Pieter Labuschagne, joined her this week.

Miss Budd was allowed to settle in Britain because she had a British-born grandfather, and her father, Frank, took out a British passport before leaving their country last month.

International boxing group to debate mandatory headguards

NEW YORK (AP) — Protective headguards, now mandatory for amateur boxing competitions in the United States and Canada, have been scorned by much of the boxing world. But they may be in place by the next Olympiad.

The lightweight, padded leather helmets, seemingly a simple safety measure, are expected to be hotly debated when the International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA) executive committee convenes April 14-15 to discuss a proposal to make headguards mandatory at the 1984 Summer Olympics.

Up to now, there has been mass resistance — especially among communist countries — even to making headgear optional in international amateur competition. "It's a big, controversial subject," says Col. Don Hull, President of the AIBA, who has been pushing for headgear and predicts it will be adopted.

Many members of the boxing

world traditionally have felt headgear makes boxing less safe for competitors, Hull says. They say the helmet becomes soaked with sweat, increasing its weight and straining neck muscles, which in turn can cause the head to "swing wildly" when hit with a cross.

It limits peripheral vision and can lull a boxer into a false sense of security, making him slower in moving out of the way.

Many critics believe wearing headgear detracts from the drama and "manliness" of the sport. And finally, skeptics insist that headguards don't really offer much protection at all.

Doctors concede that wearing headgear won't prevent potentially fatal concussions. "A headguard will never protect against a good hook across the chin," notes Hull.

What it does do, says Dr. Jerry Lital, an American neurosurgeon who has studied boxers and their head injuries, is buffer the repeated punches to the head that

over time kill and injure cells, and can cause veteran boxers to wind up "punch-drunk" — with slurred speech, an abnormal walk and impaired memory.

Lital says headgear will also protect against the bloody cuts above the eye and other facial lacerations, punctured eardrums and guard the back of the head during falls in the ring.

Other problems cited by detractors can be lessened by modifying headgear design or methods of training, and proponents believe the advantages of headguards far outweigh the drawbacks.

Hull knocks the position that there is no hard evidence to show headgear will protect the brain.

"The (U.S.) auto industry has spent billions of dollars to show padding makes good shock absorption in cars, and reduces fatalities in auto accidents from head injuries."

"We don't have to wait until we have that many fatalities in boxing to go with the proof."

Jordan prepares for Arab table tennis

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Table Tennis Federation has extended an invitation to the president of the Arab Table Tennis Union Rabe' Hafez Al Turk to inspect preparations Jordan is making to organize the ninth Arab Table Tennis Championships to be held in Amman next August.

A committee has been formed, under the chairmanship of Youth Welfare Organisation Director General Mohammad Jameel Abu Al Tayyeh, to organize the championship. A number of sub-committees have also been formed including technical, financial, information and public relations, reception as well as accommodation and transportation committees.

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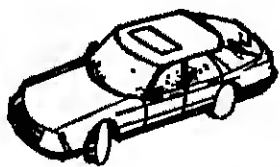
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NOC to meet Saturday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian National Olympic Committee (NOC) will hold its meeting next Saturday at Al Hussein Youth City to discuss Jordan's participation in the forthcoming Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles. The meeting, which will be chaired by Minister of Culture and Youth Abdullah 'Oweidat, will also discuss a report submitted by the Youth Welfare Organisation Director General Mohammad Jameel Abu Al Tayyeh on events Jordanian athletes are expected to participate in and the financial backing for delegates to the Games.

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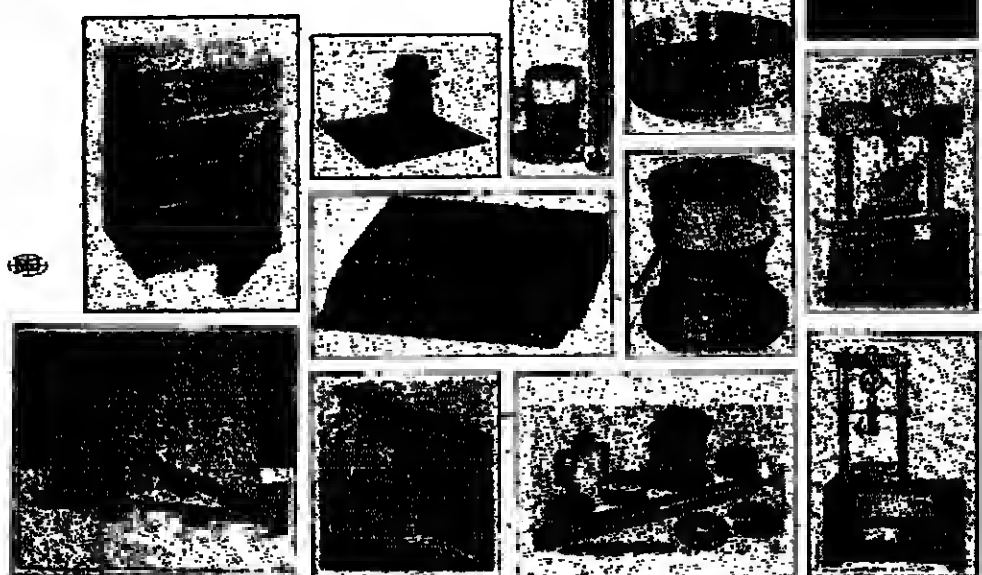
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ZAHARAN

Tel: 23171

FIRE OF VENGEANCE
(Colour)
Carate

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema

BASMAN

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KALIA
(Colour)
"Indian film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema

PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

BRUCE LEE THE DRAGON
HERO
(Colour)
THE MIGHTY KADAR
"Indian film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema

RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

IN QUILAAB
(Colour)
"Indian film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Money market analysts see future interest rates largely tied to economy

NEW YORK (R) — The U.S. central bank's latest increase in its main lending rate will make headlines but should not have much of an impact on other U.S. interest rates, according to money market economists.

They say the health of the economy in general will largely determine whether the rate goes up any further.

The Federal Reserve Bank, the "Fed" raised its so-called discount rate by one half-point, to nine per cent, on Friday.

Some analysts see the rate staying at nine per cent for the rest of the year, while others predict more rises to as high as 11 per cent.

The bond market closed higher, relieved that the Fed had finally ended weeks of uncertainty, while the dollar fell on disappointment that the rate was not raised a full point.

Mr. Thomas Thomson of Crocker National Bank said the discount rate increase would be more ammunition for West European and Latin American critics of high U.S. interest rates, but the impact should be short-lived.

"It will be quickly forgotten."

The discount rate is a technical detail affecting some banks, but it does not have much of an effect on other interest rates, especially when it is lagging a lot," he said.

The discount rate, 8 1/2 per cent since December 1982, had fallen well behind Fed funds rates which averaged 10.41 per cent last week.

The Fed, in announcing the rise, cited the relatively wide gap which had appeared in recent weeks between short-term market rates and the discount rate.

This had encouraged banks to borrow heavily from the Fed, it said.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Mr. Stephen Slifer of Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb, puzzled that the rate was raised on the heels of unemployment data showing a slowdown in the economy, said the Fed may have been so deluged by borrowings on Friday that it was forced to act.

Although he believes the economy is cooling down temporarily, Mr. Slifer sees interest rates rising again with the discount rate reaching 11 per cent by the year's end.

Mr. Henry Kaufman of Salomon Brothers predicted last month that the robust economy would force the discount rate up in the two stages, to 9 1/2 per cent by late April or early May.

The key question was how far interest rates must rise in order to slow the economy and nip inflationary pressures in the bud, he said.

Mr. David Hale of Kemper Financial Services in Chicago said interest rate increases in the past month, including two half-point rises in prime rates, would have no dramatic effect on the economy.

Mr. Timothy Howard of the Federal National Mortgage Association reported a pick-up in home buying recently in anticipation of higher interest rates.

"But once rates level off, this buying will fade and have a depressing effect on home sales and building," he said.

Mr. Howard also foresaw a psychological impact on stock prices and the dollar when U.S. financial markets re-open on Monday, but he said the effect would soon wear off.

If the economy began to run out of steam this quarter, it could be

the last discount rate increase until after November's presidential election, Mr. Howard added.

In raising the discount rate, the Fed clearly demonstrated its independence, he said.

"The Fed did not give too much consideration to politically adverse opinion, either domestically or internationally... They can't be accused now of playing politics," he said.

Investors had been worrying lately that the Fed would water down its anti-inflationary policy rather than risk the wrath of Congress in an election year.

As a consequence, some economists expect the bond market to respond enthusiastically to the discount rate rise.

Mr. Hale of Kemper Financial Services, for instance, predicted "a good two- to five-point rally" now that the uncertainty was over and economic statistics for March were shaping up to be weak.

But looking ahead, Mr. Hale saw continued dangers from the huge budget deficit. "This doesn't solve anything in the longer term. But it buys time, and in a political year that's all you can do."

U.S., Japan end trading wrangle

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States and Japan Saturday ended a long trading wrangle with a four-year accord under which Japan agreed to nearly double its American beef purchases and boost its citrus imports.

The agreement was reached after a six-hour negotiating session. Both sides had said Friday that no accord could be reached.

Japanese Agriculture Minister Shinjiro Yamamura told reporters that officials decided to restart the talks after behind-the-scenes activity by Japanese officials and because of "strong sentiment" that an accord must be reached.

Under the pact, Japan pledged to increase its imports of high-quality beef, most of which comes from the United States, by 6,900 tonnes a year until 1988, Mr. Yamamura said.

This would put Japan's high-quality beef imports at an annual rate of 58,400 tonnes per year by 1988, compared to 30,800 tonnes imported in the year ending March 31 under the agreement that expired a week ago.

Mr. Yamamura said Japan also

agreed to increase its quota of fresh orange imports by 11,000 tonnes each year for four years, from the previous 82,000 tonne quota.

He said Japan would raise its orange juice import quota by 500 tonnes per year from the current 6,500 tonne annual rate, and within two years would eliminate restrictions on grapefruit juice imports, now limited to 6,000 tonnes a year.

In addition, both sides agreed to work at reaching an agreement by the end of April on easing access to 13 other U.S. agricultural products, including peanuts, fruit juice, processed cheese, fruits and meats.

Mr. Yamamura said the accord would not be welcomed in Japan, saying: "The Japanese citrus farmers and cattlemen will have deep dissatisfaction... as a result of the agreement they will possibly face lower prices for their products."

"Politicians in Japan will ask us why we accepted such large numbers and, candidly speaking, I believe after my return to Japan I shall face a very serious situation," he added.

Egypt authorises new rates of exchange

CAIRO (R) — The Egyptian ministry of economy has authorised banks operating in Egypt to sell dollars to private sector importers at the rate of 1.18 Egyptian pounds to the dollar, banking sources said Sunday.

The sources said the move was aimed at curbing the free exchange market, which previously had been the only source of foreign currency for private sector importers.

They said banks were instructed by telephone to submit applications for dollar sales to the central bank, which would approve them according to dollar availability.

Priority will be given to importers in the industrial and agricultural sectors. Last week, the ministry authorised banks to buy dollars from Egyptian expatriate workers at a preferential rate of 1.12 pounds to the dollar.

This compares with an official rate of 0.84 pounds to the dollar, around which banks post daily buying and selling rates. Current rates are 0.826 buying and 0.818 selling.

World debt crisis requires radical solution, experts say

NEW YORK (R) — Many bankers and economists believe only radical new ways of handling international debt can prevent further emergencies from following last week's crisis involving Argentina.

Unless the debt-servicing burden of Lesser Developed Countries (LDCs) is cut to release more money for investment, the system will lurch from crisis to crisis, they say.

Solutions proposed include reducing the proportion of export earnings which LDCs must devote to debt-servicing, and partial guarantees for commercial bank loans from the World Bank or regional development banks.

"I always thought that by stretching the system we'd muddle through," Mr. Jeffrey Garten of investment bankers Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb told a recent conference here on international debt.

"But it's no longer the case. We've pushed the existing mechanisms to the limit and are at the end of the road. The situation is getting worse, not better."

The United States, Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil and Colombia agreed on a \$500 million rescue package last Friday to prevent Argentina from defaulting on interest arrears on its foreign debts of \$43.6 billion.

After Brazil and Mexico, which have total external debts of \$93

billion and \$89 billion respectively, Argentina is the third-largest debtor in the developing world.

"The debtor nations have got together to help each other pay their obligations, not to avoid their fulfillment," Argentine President Raul Alfonsín said earlier this month.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan said the world might have been plunged into a debt crisis if no financial rescue plan for Argentina had emerged.

"If you want to look over the cliff and see the chasm down below, that's the sort of thing that might have happened," Mr. Regan said.

Brazil and Mexico joined in the rescue for fear that a default by Argentina would have made banks less willing to advance credit to them, he said.

Renewed fears of a global debt crisis are expected to be a focus of attention at International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank meetings in Washington next week.

Mr. Wilfried Guth, joint management board spokesman of West Germany's Deutsche Bank, said in Frankfurt on Wednesday that the relief package for Argentina could only be an interim solution before an IMF-based programme was in place.

Argentine Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun and Central

Bank President Enrique Garcia Vasquez will submit an economic adjustment programme for IMF approval in New York this week.

The austerity programme is expected to be approved, although President Alfonsín said last Sunday he was not prepared to sacrifice his country's standard of living to satisfy the banks and international lending agencies.

In the longer term, Mr. Guth said banks would have to take a flexible attitude to debtors and be prepared to grant longer maturities and grace periods on reschedulings or new loans.

Some banks have already expressed annoyance at the low interest rate achieved by Argentina in Friday's package — only 1/2 of a percentage point above the London Inter Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR) at which banks lend to each other.

Mr. Garten told the conference at New York's Columbia University that LDCs could endure only so much austerity, that the IMF had used up its resources and that the banks were exhausted.

"They can't continue eleven-hour rescue efforts," he said. "... There is an imperative to do something radical."

Conversion of bank loans into long-term bonds paying escalating interest and partial capitalisation of interest in the early years of a loan should be considered, he said.

lightened to perhaps 15 to 25 per cent of their export earnings.

"This would permit recovery and growth, which is ultimately the only solution," he said.

He proposed that commercial bank lenders be offered partial guarantees from the World Bank or regional development banks.

A guarantee of repayment and of annual interest of perhaps five per cent would limit the banks' losses and improve the quality of their loan portfolio, Mr. Weinert said.

American businessman Mr. David Rockefeller told a news conference on Wednesday that co-operation similar to that which rescued Argentina could deal with the debt problems of Brazil and Mexico, but it was going to be "very difficult."

Last week's rescue was only the latest of several packages agreed for debt-burdened Latin American countries, which ran up huge debts as they expanded in the 1970s.

Latin America is now estimated to owe a total of \$336 billion abroad.

In Lima on Wednesday, United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez De Cuellar called for a global approach to world foreign debt problems.

Addressing the U.N. economic commission for Latin America in Lima, he said no new economic order could be created in an atmosphere of slow growth and imbalance in which extreme austerity was imposed on nations with debt and balance of payments problems.

Not everyone is in favour of radical solutions to the world debt problem, however.

U.S. Treasury Under-Secretary

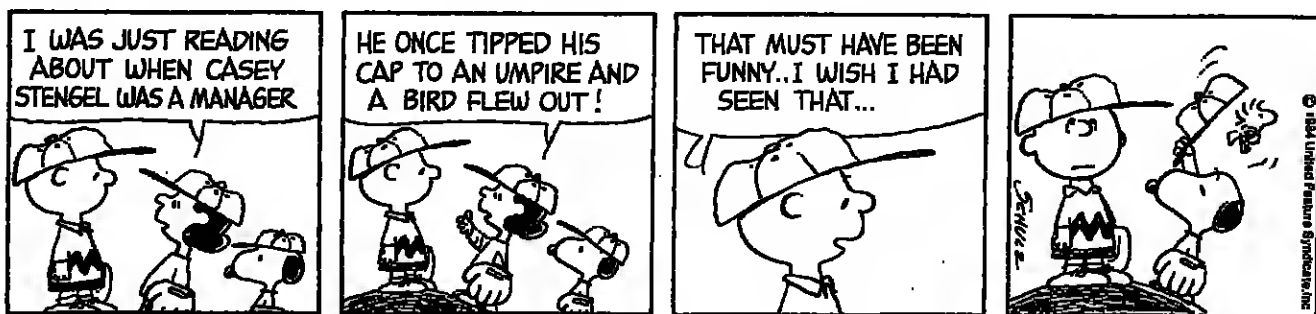
THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I found a doctor who makes house calls. How soon can you be at his house?"

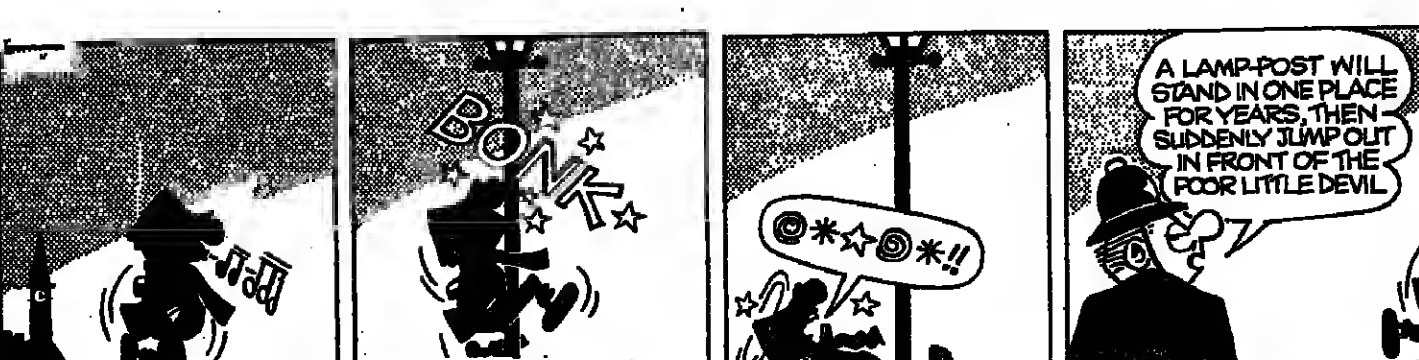
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Egypt, GEC sign contract

CAIRO (R) — Egypt Sunday signed a \$109 million contract with the U.S. General Electric Corporation (GEC) for a fourth power generator unit at the Abu Sultan station, 70 kilometres northeast of Cairo, U.S. embassy officials said.

Egyptian Electricity Minister Maher Abuza said at the signing ceremony the unit, with a 150 megawatt capacity, would be operational within two years.

The U.S. Agency for International Development will provide the cash as part of a grant to the Egyptian government, bringing to \$250 million its financial assistance for construction of the station, the embassy officials said.

The station is expected to help meet the electricity needs of Cairo and the Suez Canal town of Ismailia.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, APRIL 9, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are able, in the morning to put your ideas across in a well-rounded fashion. Later, big plans conflict with the details awaiting your attention. Get specific things done.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get your practical affairs in better order at home and at work. Clear a partner who is visionary. Improve your health.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be with partners and talk over your mutual aims as you get the right results. Cut down on expenses.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Plan to add to present income by utilizing your finest talents. Avoid one who can be very tiring to you. Be good to yourself.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Begin the week properly by solving problems that have arisen during the weekend. Some fundamental affair is worrisome.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Have a meeting with close ties and solve some situation properly once and for all. Show that you are steadfast and wise.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You need more information about how best to get assistance from friends for your finest projects. Be wise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) One of experience can give you fine advice about some monetary matter ahead of you, so use it to your best advantage.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you study that enterprise that interests you from a different angle, you will soon get right into it. Forget that private concern.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Important you first talk to an expert before trying to get all of your affairs in fine order. Relax in the evening.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You can get together with partners and good friends and get much accomplished that is worthwhile. Not a good day to ask favors.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be sure you handle that work ahead of you exactly as higher-ups expect you to do it. Look for social pleasure in the evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You are inspired how to gain your aims in the early morning, so go right after them with enthusiasm. Use particular care while driving.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will be very able at studying a condition or situation well and then handling it in a most efficient way, and will do very well while being educated and even better upon reaching adulthood.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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THE Daily Crossword

by Martha J. Da Witt

ACROSS

1 Afternoon

4 RPM, for instance

9 Tomcat

13 Woe is me!

14 Menu

15 Ireland

16 Artificer

19 Baseballer

20 Baa followers

21 Before

22 Join up again

24 No slave, but certain horse

29 Woo with music

30 Struggled

32 Intimidated

33 Assembled

34 Indign

35 Risked

36 Air pret

37 Peggy or Pinky

38 Armer

39 Undesirable

40 Cane cutters

42 Burn

43 Glosier

44 Bunny or Dody

47 In favor of

48 Soprano

49 Sometime

50 Noncoms

55 Chills and tavor

56 Obliterate

57 Poethers

58 Security

59 Loving one

60 Service designation

DOWN

1 Dish

2 Consummate

3 Examples of skill

4 Concorde

5 Fly excluder

6 Hamees-raeing horse

7 Goes astray

8 Schedule into

9 Put nft until later

10 Children should —

11 Retiremant letters

12 "Little Indiana"

13 Cupid

17 Outward

18 Cornered

23 Coward

24 Not as many

25 Skittful planners

28 "nothing like —"

29 Colonist's greeting to an Indian

29 Tender spots

30 Sedates

31 Ryan or Tatum

32 Provida

35 Arrested

36 City in Rumania

38 Taa

39 Opted

41 Tried the weight of

42 Eal

44 Furze

45 Follow

46 Headland

48 Fuel

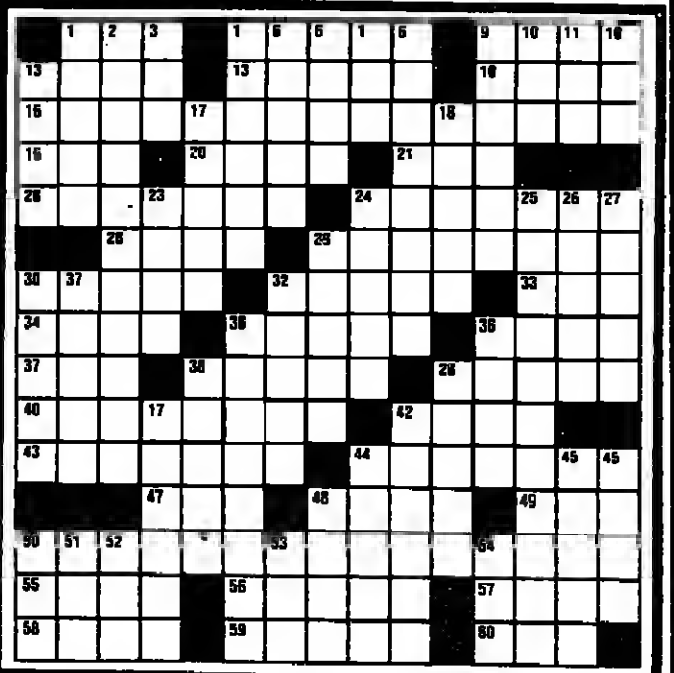
50 Fairy queen

51 Past

52 Naar star

53 Sign nt a hit play

54 Athlete's org.



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Cameroun coup attempt crushed, president says

ABIDJAN (Agencies) — Camerounian President Paul Biya said Saturday night that loyalist forces had crushed an attempt by dissident troops to seize power.

In an unexpected and dramatic statement on Yaounde Radio, the 52-year-old president, his voice breaking with emotion, told his nine million countrymen that regular forces had achieved "complete victory" over the rebels by late Saturday morning.

He said there was complete calm throughout the country.

His unannounced, one-minute statement heard here, ended two days of speculation about his fate and that of his government after dissident troops surrounded the presidential palace and began firing before dawn Friday.

The Central African country, until then a model of political stability, was cut off from the outside world shortly after the coup attempt began.

Airports were closed and telephones and radio links interrupted.

Mr. Biya confirmed reports that the coup had been mounted by

elements of the Republican Guard, a branch of the Paramilitary Gendarmerie charged with the protection of the president.

The country had achieved two decades of stability after a shaky start to nationhood when former President Ahmadou Ahidjo called on French troops to suppress leftist guerrillas in the early 1960s.

President Biya gave no word on what would be done with the dissidents and no indication of casualties. But analysts said more than 24 hours of fighting for control of the palace, the radio station and the airport was bound to have left many dead.

Mr. Biya said all strategic locations were recaptured by regular armed forces by late morning but he gave no indication of the strength of the rebels.

The fact that part of the Republican Guard was involved appeared to confirm reports that dis-

affected officers from the north of the country masterminded the attempt, diplomatic analysts said.

The Paris daily Le Monde said Friday Mr. Biya had ordered the transfer of several of the Guard's northern officers to other military units. The analysts said the move may have been a pre-emptive one aimed at ridding a key unit charged with his protection of elements suspected of retaining loyalty to Mr. Ahidjo.

Relations between the two men soured soon after Mr. Ahidjo, a northerner who ruled the country from independence in 1960, stepped down and named Mr. Biya, a southerner, as his successor two years ago.

Last August Mr. Biya said he had uncovered a plot to overthrow him and accused Mr. Ahidjo of being involved. The former president and two of his aides were sentenced to death last February for their alleged involvement.

Mr. Ahidjo, who lives in self-imposed exile in France, has always denied the charges.

African diplomatic sources in Abidjan said the verdict was



Paul Biya

bound to have further exacerbated traditional north-south tensions.

Despite Mr. Biya's announcement that calm prevailed normal telephone and telecommunication had not yet been restored.

Cameroun Foreign Minister Felix TONYE M'BOG said: "The government is in complete control of the situation throughout the country and the attempt never spread further than Yaounde."

Mr. M'BOG arrived in Paris Friday night from Morocco, where he had been visiting when the revolt began Friday.

The foreign minister blamed the rebellion on "regionalists and separatists" in the palace guard. He said some of the rebels were arrested, while others were fleeing Yaounde.

China, Vietnam swap accusation of border incursions during fighting

PEKING (R) — Hanoi said Sunday several Chinese infantry battalions entered Vietnam on Friday, while Peking reported its troops killed Vietnamese soldiers on Chinese soil on Thursday during fighting along their tense frontier.

The Vietnamese embassy in Peking issued a statement saying that several Chinese infantry battalions occupied land around hills numbers 820 and 636 of Quoc Khanh village, Trang Dinh district, in Lang Son province opposite China's Guangxi region on April 6.

"The local army and people... repulsed many enemy attacks and firmly safeguarded national frontiers," said a statement, which described the Chinese action as an "extremely blatant act of war."

Vietnamese diplomats said Saturday night Chinese troops were still on Vietnamese soil, but they said Sunday they did not know whether the Chinese had withdrawn.

The New China News Agency reported Sunday that on April 5 a Chinese patrol fired on six Vietnamese soldiers who had entered China's Yunnan province to lay mines, killing three.

The survivors fled, but Viet-

namese forces fired across the border and the Chinese returned the fire, it said.

The agency said about 20 Vietnamese dead and wounded were carried away from the Vietnamese position after the four-hour exchange.

Western military attaches said they had conflicting reports from Vietnamese sources about the strength of the Chinese invading force.

One said he had heard that the Chinese made two drives across the border each at regimental strength which he estimated at about 1,000 men each.

Another said he was told that one regiment had been involved, but put its strength at more than 2,000.

The Vietnamese diplomats said the Chinese troops were supported by rockets and artillery but not by aircraft.

Foreign military analysts said the lack of Chinese air support and the fact that China had not announced any attack into Vietnam suggested that Peking had not intended a major or lengthy incursion.

They said that if Chinese battalions had crossed over their aim might have been to destroy Viet-

namese artillery positions overlooking the border.

Both sides have made repeated accusations of frontier provocations since China launched what it called a "self-defensive counter attack" into Lang Son province in 1979. The incursion came shortly after Vietnam invaded Kampuchea and toppled the pro-Peking Khmer Rouge government.

Although China said its shelling of Vietnam has been prompted by intensified Vietnamese provocations, Western analysts said one of Peking's major motives was to distract Hanoi from its dry-season offensive against Kampuchean guerrilla groups along the Thai border.

Diplomats said a similar increase in tension occurred at almost the same stage of the dry season last year and abated before the rains came in May.

Guerrillas of the Kampuchean Resistance Coalition are being hard pressed. Last week the main faction, the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge, reported they had lost an important base to the Vietnamese.

An estimated 180,000 Vietnamese troops are based in Kampuchea.

Soviets develop remote-control plane

MOSCOW — (R) — The Soviet Union has developed and tested a small, remote-controlled aircraft for use in agriculture and aerial surveys, a Moscow newspaper reported. The nine-metre (30-foot) craft is operated by radio control and guided by two sets of wings on an aircraft-like structure fixed under the body of the air balloon, the trade union daily Trud said. The craft, called Angren-1, has a maximum flying height of 100 metres and is considered ideally suited for crop spraying, laying telephone cables in remote areas and carrying out aerial photography.

Sabine city found near Rome

PASSO CORESE, Italy (AP) — Archaeologists have uncovered an 8th century B.C. city north of Rome that is believed to be one of the oldest Sabine settlements ever discovered, officials said Tuesday. Professor Maria Luisa Velocci Rinaldi, archaeological superintendent for the Lazio region, told reporters that the city appears to date from the Iron Age. She said other Sabine cities are probably located in the area but no more excavations are planned until next year because of lack of funds. The Sabines were an ancient people who lived with the budding city-state of Rome and the Etruscans for control of central Italy. They were finally conquered by Rome in 290 B.C. Little is known about them except that many of their customs were adopted by Rome. The city was discovered on three small hills 40 kilometres northeast of Rome between Passo Corese and Fara. On the site archaeologists have uncovered a large hut, a furnace surrounded by wells and what appears to have been a warehouse with plaster walls and filled with grain and seeds. They have also found the bones of various domestic animals as well as painted ceramics and vases.

Bangladesh tornado kills 5 people

DHAKA (R) — Five people were killed and more than 50 injured when a tornado with winds gusting at up to 130 kilometres an hour hit Bangladesh's capital and surrounding areas Saturday night, officials said Sunday. They said most of the victims died when several houses collapsed during the tornado, which was accompanied by rain and hail. The storm uprooted lamp-posts and disrupted power supplies in the nearby river port of Narayananganj, the officials said.

Affectionate elephant kills keeper accidentally

HYTE, England (AP) — A 22-year-old elephant keeper was killed Saturday when a young bull elephant wrapped its trunk affectionately around him and accidentally crushed his head against iron railings, police said. Mark Aitken, who lived and worked at the Port Lympe Wildlife Park near Hythe in Kent, died instantly after he was grabbed by 1-year-old Bindu. "The elephant pushed his trunk through the railings and wrapped it round Mr. Aitken, a police spokesman said. "It pushed him towards the railing and the man's head and neck struck the iron, causing his instantaneous death."

'Bomber' Harris dies in his sleep

LONDON (AP) — Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Arthur Travers Harris, leader of the British bomber force which destroyed German cities in World War II, died Thursday night at age 91, his family said Friday. He reportedly died peacefully in his sleep at his home at Goring-on-Thames west of London. A bulky, aggressive man, he argued for and got a huge switch of the British wartime resources into building, maintaining and flying the bombers which smashed Germany in night raids during World War II. His policy of saturation area bombing to destroy the homes and morale of German workers was criticised during the war by his colleagues in the armed services and by his American counterparts in the U.S. Eighth Air Force, who operated from Britain with a policy of precision bombing against German factories and defences.

Downed Nicaraguan rebel plane found by reporter

COOPEVEGA, Costa Rica (R)

— A Reuters correspondent Saturday found the wreckage of a transport plane which was believed to have been flying Nicaraguan rebels.

Correspondent Jose Loria discovered the remains in a heavily wooded area of Costa Rica close to the Nicaraguan border.

Rebel sources had previously told Reuters that the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance (ARDE), fighting Nicaragua's Sandinist government, lost its only remaining transport aircraft when it crashed two weeks ago.

At least two crew members died in the crash, the sources said.

ARDE and government spokesmen here denied knowledge of the incident at the time, but sources close to the Costa Rican Security Ministry said Saturday a U.S. Air Force Hercules C-130 had searched in vain for the aircraft.

Local eyewitnesses told Reuters they saw armed men in uniforms, not of Costa Rican Security Forces, take seven bodies away from the wreckage.

The eyewitnesses said four of the corpses looked like North Americans.

The bodies were buried nearby after being burned by the uniformed men, who later set the aircraft on fire, they said.

They declined to say whether the men in uniforms were members of the ARDE group.

A mound which appeared to be a grave was seen by the Reuters

correspondent who reported the find to local officials.

Enough of the aircraft remained to identify the characteristics of a DC-3. The wings carried no markings.

The correspondent also found remains of a maintenance manual written in English for this type of aircraft and ammunition cases with English markings near the wreckage.

Officials at the U.S. embassy here were unavailable for comment.

ARDE, which has said it does not accept covert aid from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), operates from bases just across Costa Rica's northern border to sparsely populated South Nicaragua. It maintains its political headquarters in San Jose.

Costa Rica, one of the few nations in the world without an army, has said it wants to remain neutral in the conflict between the leftist Sandinist leadership and anti-government rebels.

The Security Ministry and guerrilla sources said ARDE planes frequently took off from many of the hundreds of isolated airstrips in Costa Rica.

But Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon has said Costa Rica does not have the radar facilities to control its airspace.

ARDE claims to have a fighting force of 4,500 men but diplomatic sources in the region have put the number at 2,500.

Chad mine explosion kills 9 French paratroopers

PARIS (R) — Nine French paratroopers were killed Saturday in an explosion near the central Chad outpost of Oum Chalouba, a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

Six died instantly and three later of their wounds, the spokesman said. Another six paratroopers were undergoing treatment for injuries after the blast.

The casualties were the worst the French have suffered since they launched "operation manta" last August, dispatching 3,000 soldiers to help Chad President Hissene Habre halt a southward advance by Libyan-backed rebels.

A ministry communiqué quoted Defence Minister Charles Hernu

as saying the explosion occurred during "a reconnaissance mission of positions north of Oum Chalouba on paths likely to have been mined."

The statement said one officer, three junior officers and 16 enlisted men had been reconnoitering the area, but did not give the ranks of the dead and wounded.

The explosion occurred when the group moved 300 metres from the path and approached a vehicle which had been abandoned by rebels in 1982.

"We suspect that the men stepped on a buried mine," Mr. Heron said.

Spanish colonels to stand trial on coup-plot charges

MADRID (R) — Four Spanish army colonels stand before a court martial on Tuesday accused of plotting a coup designed to thwart a Socialist election victory in 1982.

The prosecution seeks 15-year prison sentences for Colonel Luis Munoz Gutierrez, Colonel Jesus Crespo Cuspinera and his Lieutenant-Colonel Brother Jose, and 12 years for Lieutenant-Colonel Juan Fernandez Hidalgo.

The officers are alleged to have plotted a military takeover set for the eve of the Oct. 28 elections which swept the Socialists to power.

The officers say maps seized when the three main defendants were arrested on Oct. 2 were part of a theoretical exercise.

According to the Defence Ministry, however, "Operation Cervantes" would have involved the seizure of key military and government installations followed by the "neutralisation" of leading politicians and the occupation of party headquarters.

The prosecution says the plans included training guns on King

Juan Carlos's Zarzuela Palace and the prime minister's Mococho Palace while 114 "blind obedience commandos" occupied key installations and neutralised political leaders.

Discovery of the alleged plot during the 1982 election campaign met scepticism from many Spaniards.

There were suggestions — encouraged by the Socialists — that the then ruling Centreists were exploiting it to discourage Spaniards from returning the first left-wing government since the 1936-39 civil war.

Tuesday's court martial is expected to spark off a fresh round of extreme right-wing protest.

The rightist daily El Alcazar said in a front page editorial Sunday that "an anthology of solemn statements" by politicians supported the defence's argument that the plot never existed.

"There could be political reasons for a guilty verdict designed to underline an attitude of prevalence of civilian power over the military," it said.

Shirley MacLaine: A strong favourite to win Oscar today

LOS ANGELES (R) — An actress approaching 50 and an Actor still to become a box office "Name" — Shirley MacLaine and Robert Duvall — are favourites to win Oscars Monday before an estimated audience of 500 million people.

MacLaine, who will be 50 on April 24, is the 3-1 betting favourite to win her first Oscar for best actress for her role of a hot-tempered, blonde widow battling with her headstrong daughter in Terms of Endearment.

MacLaine has "family" opposition. Her film daughter, Debra Winger, has also been nominated for the best actress award. But film critics believe this is the year for MacLaine, who has been nominated four times before and has still to win an Academy Award.

"I had a wonderful part in the 'Terms of Endearment' and I think I was good," the outspoken MacLaine declared.

The balding Duvall, 53, who began his film career playing nervous villains, is the strong 3-2 favourite to be chosen best actor for his role as a drunken western singer trying to get his life back together in Tender Mercies.

The film nearly died at birth when some distributors believed it would not be a commercial success.

Opposing Duvall are four Bri-

tish actors, of whom two played burned-out poets — Michael Caine, in Educating Rita, and Tom Conti, in Reuben, Reuben.

Albert Finney and Tom Courtenay, stars of the British film The Dresser, complete the quartet. Conti is second favourite at 3-1, followed by Caine, at 4-1, Finney, at 7-1, and Courtenay, at 9-1.

Caine has in the past been nominated for roles in Alfie and Sleuth. "It would be very nice to win," he said. "But if I don't win I'm not going to kill myself."

A spokesman for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, whose 4,000 members in the film industry vote on the awards, said 500 million people are expected to follow the star-studded awards show on television and radio worldwide Monday night.

The studios believe the gold-plated Oscar — which stands just 13 and a half inches (34 cm) high — can add \$20 million to the box office takings of the winner of the best film award.

An award for best actor or actress is estimated to add \$4 million to a film's takings.

So Hollywood takes the Oscar awards seriously. Studios have spent \$4 million plugging their nominees in advertisements.

Vying with MacLaine and Winger for the best actress award are



Shirley MacLaine

Jane Alexander, for her role of a mother who watches her children die after a nuclear explosion in Testament, Meryl Streep, who played a rebellious nuclear laboratory technician in Silkwood, and Britain's Julie Walters, for her role of a hairdresser hungry for an education in Educating Rita.

Streep, who has won two Oscars, and Walters are second favourites to MacLaine at 7-2, followed by Alexander at 4-1, and Winger at 12-1.

If Caine and Walters win, they will be the sixth couple in the 55-year history of the academy to win awards for best actor and actress for the same film.

In the best film category, the Right Stuff, which took an ir-



Cher

relevant look at the first seven U.S. astronauts, is the betting favourite at even money.

It is followed by Terms of Endearment, at 3-2 and Tender Mercies, at 5-2. The Big Chill, the story of seven college friends who meet to mourn the suicide of a fellow student, and The Dresser are quoted at 11-1.

Victory for The Dresser, which dwells on the relationship between the ageing actor and his dresser, would give the award to Britain for the third year in succession, in the wake of Chariots of Fire and Gandhi.

Jack Nicholson, who played a hard-drinking ex-astronaut in Terms of Endearment, is favoured to win the award for best sup-



Meryl Streep

porting actor. Night club and television entertainer Cher is the betting favourite to be chosen best supporting actress for her role of a lesbian laboratory worker in Silkwood.

One actress expected to be missing from the star-studded theatre audience in Los Angeles is Barbra Streisand, who failed to win any nominations for her roles as producer, director and star of Yentl.

But she will not be forgotten. A group called principles, equality and professionalism in film has said 300 supporters will demonstrate outside the theatre, saying the omission of Yentl proves the film industry discriminates against women.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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DIAMOND HEIST IN AMSTERDAM

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands that we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column.

East-West vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♦ J
♥ AK10842
♦ A10965
♠ 5

WEST EAST
♦ AK7653 ♦ 108
♥ 6 ♥ J9
♦ 2 ♦ KJ743
♠ J10964 ♠ K873

SOUTH
♦ Q942
♥ Q753
♦ Q8
♦ AQ2

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1♦ 2♦ 3♦
Pass 4♥ Pass 4NT
Pass 5♦ Pass 6♥
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦.

If you are brazen enough and do it early enough, you can get away with bare-faced robbery at the bridge table.

This hand is from the 1986 World Open Pair Olympiad in Amsterdam.

We know many players